Lifestyle

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71ST YEAR NO. 39 PHONE 978-658-2346 SEPTEMBER 25, 2025 www.HomeNewsHere.com 18 PAGES

Select Board approves agreements, space requests

By LIZZY HILL
News Correspondent

WILMINGTON — The Select Board meeting on Monday, Sept. 22 opened with a moment of silence to honor Scott Dunnett. Select Board Chair Frank West shared that Dunnett was a Wilmington resident who served in the Army Reserve and on the Wilmington Police Department before he joined the Department of Public Works, and he had left behind a spouse and three children.

Attorney Robert Peterson Jr. spoke on behalf of the developer for 7 Cross St. seeking permission to allow the three affordable units to be subject to a regulatory agreement with the town.

West asked about the purpose of the regulatory agreement. Peterson provided that this would set restrictions on how the three affordable units can be bought and sold, and at what price, which would be 80 percent of the median income.

Kevin Caira wanted to know if the units would have local preference, which Peterson confirmed.

The board voted in favor of the regulatory agreement for 7 Cross St.

Two communications were received that night by the board. The first came from Town Manager Eric Slagle regarding the reuse of town buildings. While he thanked the Building Reuse Committee for their assessment of the Buzzell School, he also recognized that there may be some buildings upon which the town and administration already have a consensus.

He said he wanted permission to bring forward a plan to the Select Board for review in those cases rather than going through an elongated process by the reuse committee — for example, the Wildwood School being used to expand the Wildwood Cemetery. They would continue to use the reuse committee where there is not a consensus by the town on the building.

Lilia Maselli and Gary DePalma stated their agreement with this proposal. Jacob Gearwar and Caira later said the same.

West wondered if the reuse committee had an opinion on the proposal. Slagle provided that he had spoken with the leaders of the committee — Dennis Kelley and Jamie Magaldi — who were both in favor of this proposal. Maselli also mentioned that the town manager was the one who charged the

SELECT | PAGE A9W

Serious accident near Wilmington line

A small white sedan and large pickup truck with a trailer collided shortly after 7 p.m. on Wednesday evening, Sept. 17. The collision occurred on Main Street in North Woburn near West Dexter (and the Wilmington line). Traffic was down to one lane heading northbound as Main Street southbound traffic was diverted onto Mountain Street. One person was transported by the Woburn Fire Department, who also placed sand on the road to soak up engine spills onto the roadway. (KAPAndrewsPhotos)

Woburn City Council closes public nuisance proceedings against Wilmington landlord

By PATRICK BLAIS

WOBURN — Agreeing a Wilmington landlord had done her part to clean up the property, the City Council on Tuesday night officially ended public nuisance proceedings initiated nearly a year concerning a Maywood Terrace rental home.

During a meeting in City Hall this week, the City Council effectively dismissed the public nuisance case against 4 Maywood Terrace owner Deborah McLaughlin by closing the public hearing and placing the matter on file without making a finding.

However, Ward 5 Councilor Darlene Mercer-Bruen and other city officials before taking that action warned the landlord that should issues again arise at the property, they will not hesitate to restart the proceedings.

"One concern the neighbors have is if we just let this go, it might happen all over again. But the next time, we'll have all this evidence in front of us," warned Mercer-Bruen, whose district includes the Kennedy Middle School area residence in question.

"The city exhausted a lot of time and resources on this matter and I agree, if this continues, we'll [take up this matter from today's starting point] because the landlord will not have changed. We won't just erase the history regarding this property," later agreed Ward 6 Councilor Lou DiMambro.

Mercer-Bruen initiated the public nuisance proceedings back in November of 2024 at the urging of neighbors and Building Commissioner Thomas Quinn, who had been called to the modest three-bedroom cape on multiple occasions in prior years to investigate alleged zoning and building code violations, including:

- Claims that the house was used as a short-term AirBnB rental;
- Reports that truck drivers were parking tractor-trailers there and using the driveway as an overnight layover;
- Allegations that individuals were living in abandoned cars on the property;
- and complaints about unregistered vehicles littering the property.

A number of Beach Street area residents also testified during the public hearing that police were being dispatched regular-

NUISANCE | PAGE A10W

Select Board divided on Buzzell School reuse

By LIZZY HILL
News Correspondent

WILMINGTON — On Monday, Sept. 22, the Select Board received a presentation from the Building Reuse Committee and voted on the future use of the Buzzell School building, previously used as the senior center.

Building Reuse Committee Chair Dennis Kelley described that the reuse committee met seven times between February 2025 and July 2025 to produce this assessment. They were charged with conducting an assessment of the building, investigating the needs of town departments for the space, engaging community stakeholders, soliciting input from other town boards and committees, and making preliminary cost determinations.

They considered construction estimates from Socotec, gas and electric usage, the 2018 Facilities Master Plan, accessibility restrictions, and building history, along with the state of the building to rate the building in categories including staffing needs, cost to maintain utilities, safety inspection, accessibility, historic value, and more.

Notable highlights from the average score of the reuse committee members were a 2.4 in modified facility condition, 2 in accessibility, 10 in sewer condition, and 7.6 in history and in community input.

Kelley mentioned that needs were identified for reuse of the building by the Recreation Department, Wilmington Arts Council, and the Wilmington Memorial Library, and by WCTV and the Wilmington Sons and Daughters of Italy.

Beyond that, residents recommended uses include community gardens, elderly housing, and even a youth center. In a public survey, residents largely preferred reuse of the building (62% to 35%), and the top reason to tear the building down was the cost of upkeep.

In the committee's assessment, they found that the value of the building is around $546,000. However, the cost to upgrade the building to code was calculated at $1.2 million, and even demolition could cost as much as

REUSE | PAGE A9W

Demoulas comments on recent firings

By PAIGE IMPINK
News Correspondent

TEWKSBURY — In his first personal statement since his removal as Chief Executive Officer of Tewksbury-based Market Basket, Arthur T. Demoulas addressed the firings of three longtime executives.

Operations leaders Paul Quigley, Adam Deschene and Esteban Alvarez were terminated last week. The three had been suspended since July for

DEMOULAS | PAGE A10W

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Wilmington Library News:

Taylor Swift prerelease party on Thursday, Oct. 2

Adult Programs

Drop-in Tech Help

Tuesday, September 30, 2 p.m.
Wednesday, October 1, 2 p.m.
Thursday, October 2, 2 p.m.
Saturday, October 4, 2 p.m.

Have a tech question that's been bugging you? Stop by Drop-in Tech Help.

Needleworkers at Night

Monday, Sept. 29, 6 - 8 p.m.

These nighttime sessions are perfect for anyone who does any kind of needle craft but can't make it to Needleworkers during the day! Drop-in.

Tiny Art Show Submission Deadline

Tuesday, Sept. 30, All Day

Submit your tiny art by the deadline on September 30! Open to all ages and all mediums. Paint a tiny canvas, draw a tiny picture, create a tiny sculpture, a tiny felted creation, tiny knitting, or even tiny ceramics. Be creative!

Italians in Boston's North End

Thursday, Oct. 2, 6:30 p.m.

Join author and historian Anthony Mitchell Sammarco for a talk on the evolution of Boston's "Little Italy," the North End. Thank you to the Wilmington Sons and Daughters of Italy for supporting this program.

Needleworkers

Friday, Oct. 3, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

This is a social group for those who do any kind of needle craft. Bring your knitting, crocheting, quilting, etc. and enjoy conversation and camaraderie. Drop-in.

Sip Coffee & Carve

Saturday, Oct. 4, 10 a.m. -12 p.m.

Discover the art of printmaking from scratch. Everyone will leave with their carved block, along with 3-5 unique prints of their creation. We'll have some coffee ready to wake up your creative side!

Youth Programs

Wilmington Community Playgroup

Monday, Sept. 29, 10 a.m.

Join Community Teamwork Family Resource Network for a community playgroup where we'll work on Early Literacy skills and much, much more! Ask CTI about any resources they can help provide for you and your family. Ages 0-6, siblings welcome

Teen Leadership Council

Tuesday, Sept. 30, 6 p.m.

Are you interested in advocating for what you want at WML? Have you volunteered before, but want to commit to more? Join our Teen Leadership Council! Grades 7-12

Family Craft Night: Yarn Pumpkins

Wednesday, Oct. 1, 6 p.m.

Create pumpkins using yarn with your family! There will be a variety of pumpkin options to choose from! Ages 3+

▲ Are you counting down the hours until the release of The Life of a Showgirl? Join fellow Swifties at the library on Oct. 2 at 3:30 p.m. for a Taylor Swift Prerelease Party! (Courtesy photo)

Taylor Swift Prerelease Party

Thursday, Oct. 2, 3:30 p.m.

Count down the hours to the release of The Life of a Showgirl with fellow Swifties at the library! We'll have cookie decorating, trivia, and crafts to celebrate. Wear your glitteriest outfit and shine like a mirrorball! Grades 6-12

LEGO Building

Friday, Oct. 3, 3:45 p.m.

Build with LEGOs at the same time as other LEGO fans and display what you make in the library! Grades K-5

Costume Craze!

Saturday, Oct. 4, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Costume Craze is back! Donate new or lightly worn youth Halloween costumes to the library between 9/2-9/30! Come by on October 4 to find a new-to-you kids or teen costume (no donation required)! All Ages

Additional Information

Check Out Our Library of Things

Did you know Wilmington Memorial Library circulates more than just books? Check out our Adult, Teen and Youth Library of Things for fun and useful items to take home. Items include: a talking book player, chromebooks, a pickleball kit, happy light, a tent and much more! See what's available at *https://wilmlibrary.org/lot/*.

Book Store Next Door

Regular hours are back at The Book Store Next Door! The bookstore is open Wednesdays and Saturdays from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Museum Passes

The library has discounted passes to your favorite Massachusetts museums, attractions, and state parks. Find the full list by visiting *www.wilmlibrary.org/services/mp.*

WML In-Person & Virtual Programming

Registration is required for most in-person programs and is required for all virtual programs, as you will need to register in order to receive the Zoom link. You can register on our website at *www.wilmlibrary.org* or by calling (978) 658-2967.

Squid Game: The Challenge season 3 casting call

By MICHELLE VISCO
News Correspondent

Netflix's award-winning reality competition series Squid Game: The Challenge is now casting in Massachusetts for its third season which will be filmed in the UK. Adam Peach, Casting Assistant Producer for Squid Game: The Challenge, Season 3, stated, "we're looking for smart, dynamic and tenacious individuals, who are up for competing to win a life-changing amount of money! It is open to everyone over 21 years, terms and conditions apply."

They are also looking for pairs, groups and teams from all walks of life to take part.

He said, "Whether you're a dynamic pair of best friends, a tight-knit 5-a-side football team, a whole cheerleading squad, or a group of Rubik's Cube wizards. If you think you have what it takes to conquer the ultimate challenge with your closest friends, teammates, or crew then we want to hear from you!"

They are calling on all individuals, pairs/groups of friends, relatives who know each other inside and out, sports teams, any game groups such as chess clubs, table top gamers, or even eSports crews, work colleagues who thrive under pressure as a team, community groups, and any other dynamic duo or group with something to prove!

Squid Game: The Challenge is a supersized reality competition series where real-life players will be immersed in the iconic Squid Game universe to compete in a series of games in order to become the sole survivor and win a huge prize of $4.56 million! Win or lose, all players will leave unscathed.

If you are looking for a competition that will test your skills, trust and endurance then please apply at *squidgamecasting.com*. There is no deadline to apply but Peach encourages contestants to apply as soon as possible.

Filming will take place in England, UK in February/March of 2026 and will be filmed across three weeks, but this could change. They are looking for 456 contestants to take on Squid Game: The Challenge, with applications being received from all over the United States.

Peach concluded by stating that "In Squid Game: The Challenge, players face off in grueling games pulled straight from the scripted series, build strategic alliances, and consider cutthroat betrayals, all for the chance to take home a whopping $4.56 million."

Advertisement

It's Your Money
by Todd Brisbois

Frequently asked questions about the Energy Efficient Home Improvement Credit – QUALIFYING EXPENDITURES AND CREDIT AMOUNT CREDIT:

PART I

What home improvements are eligible for the credit, and how much is the credit?

The following energy efficient home improvements are eligible for the credit. The law divides the items eligible for the credit into three categories, each of which includes credit caps.

1) Qualified energy efficiency improvements consisting of certain "energy efficient building envelope component[s]" that satisfy Energy efficiency requirements and consist of exterior doors (30% of costs up to $250 per door, up to a total of $500 if multiple doors are installed); exterior windows and skylights (30% of costs up to $600); and insulation materials or systems and air sealing materials or systems (30% of costs up to $1,200).
2) "Residential energy property expenditures" (30% of costs, including certain labor) that satisfy Energy efficiency requirements and consist of:
   - Property subject to a $600 cap per item and including central air conditioners; natural gas, propane, or oil water heaters; natural gas, propane, or oil furnaces or hot water boilers; oil furnaces or hot water boilers meeting certain requirements; improvements to or replacements of panelboards, sub-panelboards, branch circuits, or feeders that are installed in conjunction with any qualified energy efficiency improvements, and
   - Property not subject to the $600 cap, including electric or natural gas heat pump water heaters; electric or natural gas heat pumps; biomass stoves or boilers meeting certain requirements.
3) Home energy audits (credit is 30% of the cost with a cap of $150.)

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Upcoming local events

September 25, Tewksbury Community Market, 4 - 7 p.m., Livingston Street Recreation Complex, *www.tewksburymarket.com* Over 30 vendors, food trucks, farmers, crafts, games and more.

September 28, Wilmington Farmer's Market, Swain Green, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. Over 20 vendors, food trucks, farmers, crafts, games! *Wilmingtonfarmersmarket.com*

September 27, - The Hottest Yard Sale in Town Indoor Yard Sale 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Tewksbury Senior Center, 175 Chandler St. Yard sale treasures, lunch menu available, gift shop and consignment boutique will be open. SUPPORT YOU LOCAL SENIOR CENTER

September 27, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., Free Community Health Fair, Public Health Museum. Flu shots, talks, free health screenings, giveaways. *Publichealthmuseum.org*

October 5, 1 - 2:30 p.m. Blessing of the Animals, Tewksbury Congregational Church.

October 8, Power of Flowers Spread the Joy Annual Luncheon, 11:30 a.m. - 2 p.m. *Pofp.org*

October 11, Tewksbury screening of Stonegate, the movie. Public Health Museum, 6:30 p.m. *Publichealthmuseum.org* for tickets $10.

October 14, Welcome to Tewksbury event, Senior Center, 6 - 7:30 p.m.

Public Health Museum, **Thursdays and Saturdays**, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., 365 East St. on the campus of Tewksbury Hospital. *Publichealthmuseum.org*

Book Store Next Door, **Saturdays**, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. The Book Store is staffed by volunteers from the Friends of the Wilmington Public Library. All proceeds support library programs. Next to Wilmington Public Library.

Sundays, Lowell Streetcar Museum, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m., Adults $3, seniors and youth age 3-12 $2, children under 3 are free. Cash only. 25 Shattuck Street, Lowell.

Wilmington Town Museum, **Mondays and Tuesdays**, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., Harnden Tavern, 430 Salem Street (Route 62),Wilmington

Middlesex Canal Museum, **Saturdays and Sundays**, Noon - 4 p.m.,, 71 Faulkner Street, North Billerica

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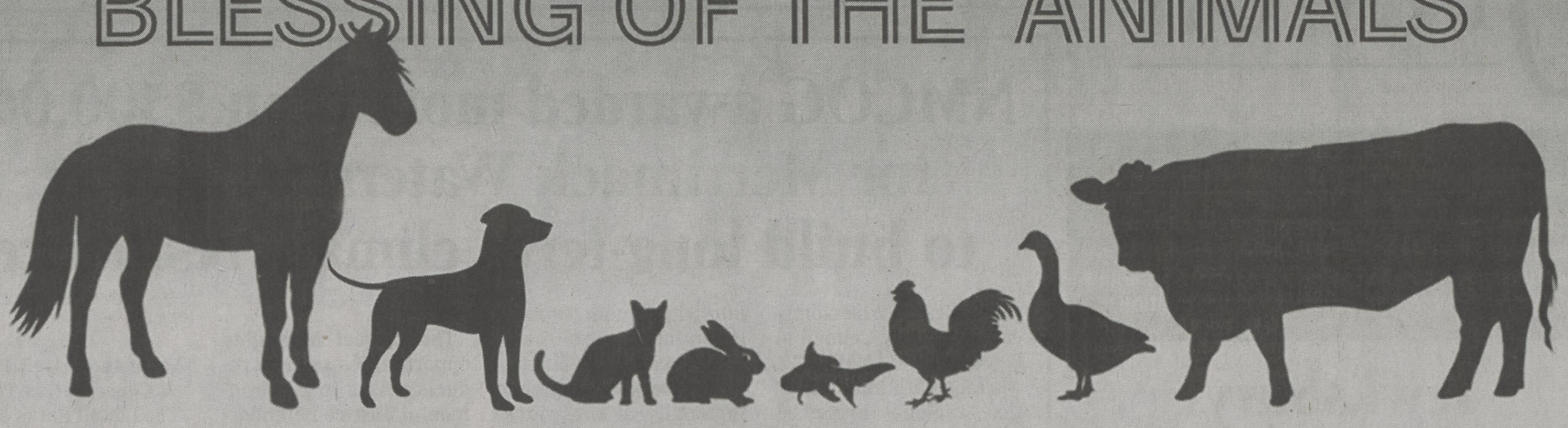

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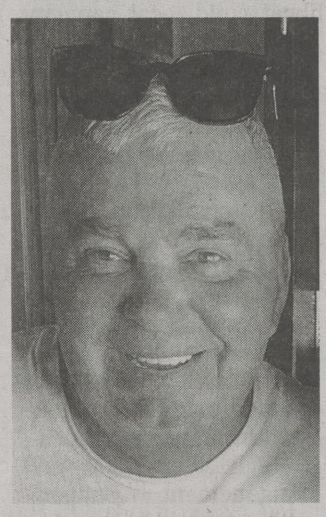
OBITUARY

Wayne H. 'Big Wayne' Francis

Loved being around family



With deep sadness and so much love, we announce the passing of Wayne H. Francis, who left us on Sept. 20, 2025, at the Lahey Clinic in Burlington, surrounded by his family.

Wayne was born in Melrose, on Nov. 10, 1956; he was the cherished son of the late Donald and Lorraine (Wheeler) Francis. He was raised in Wilmington, where he built a life rooted in love, family, and community.

Wayne was the rock of our family. He had a way of making everyone around him feel welcome, valued, and deeply loved. His greatest joy was being surrounded by his family, whether it was grilling steak tips in the backyard, cheering on the Patriots on a Sunday afternoon, or simply enjoying time together at home.

Family was at the center of everything he did, and he never missed a chance to show how proud he was of his children and grandchildren.

Wayne also had a strong work ethic and a deep sense of loyalty. For over 40 years, he proudly drove trucks for Robert Francis Construction, his brother's business. He loved the work he did and the relationships he built along the way, and he was respected by all who knew him in and out of the job.

He shared an extraordinary love with his late wife, Jaye. Together, they built a home filled with laughter, warmth, and countless memories. Their bond was unshakable, and their love story will forever remain an example of true partnership and devotion.

Wayne was the beloved husband and best friend of the late Jaye (Barry) Francis, devoted father of Tammy Francis of Wilmington, Wayne Francis, Jr. and companion Raychel Pappas of Wilmington, Shawn Francis and wife Amanda of Tewksbury, Laura Francis and companion Eric Creekmore of Wilmington, and Jillian Whitney and husband Michael of Gloucester.

Loving "Papa" of Alexis Costa and husband Vincent, Drew Depalma and wife Sydnie, Kara Whitney, Jordyn Doyle, Jaelyn Creekmore, Kaycee Whitney, Harley Francis, Emma Francis, Joseph Whitney, Jesse Creekmore, Stephanie Francis, Zoey Francis, and great-grandchildren Thomas and Jaxon Depalma.

Dear brother of Robert Francis and wife Ann of Groveland and Donald Francis of Wilmington. Wayne is also survived by many brothers- and sisters-in-law, nieces, nephews, and friends who will miss him dearly.

Wayne's love, kindness, and gentle presence touched everyone who knew him. His legacy lives on in the family he adored and in the many lives he made brighter just by being himself.

We will miss him dearly but hold tight to the love he gave so freely and the memories he leaves behind.

Family and friends will gather for Visiting Hours at the Nichols Funeral Home, 187 Middlesex Ave. (Rte. 62), Wilmington, on Thursday, Sept. 25, from 4 - 7 p.m. A Funeral Mass for Wayne will take place at St. Thomas of Villanova Church, 126 Middlesex Ave., Wilmington, on Friday, Sept. 26, at 10:30 a.m., followed by his interment in Wildwood Cemetery, Wilmington.

To leave a message of condolence for the family please visit *www.nicholsfuneralhome.com (http://www.nicholsfuneralhome.com/)*.

FinCom reviews special Town Meeting warrant

By ROSALYN IMPINK
News Correspondent

TEWKSBURY — The Tewksbury Finance Committee met at town hall on Sept. 15, 2025 to discuss the special Town Meeting warrant.

Town Manager John Curran said that the town is in a "very good" free cash position of $10.14 million. Free cash is surplus unrestricted funds from the previous fiscal year's operations that have been certified by the Massachusetts Department of Revenue (DOR) as available for spending; free cash is generated when revenue exceeds projections or expenditures are under budget.

He noted that the state carefully monitors towns' free cash to ensure that properties aren't being overtaxed; free cash should fall somewhere between 5-7 percent of a town's total budget — Tewksbury's is at 6.45 percent.

Article 1 seeks to appropriate additional funds due to unanticipated additional revenue to the FY2026 budget for the following purposes: an unused vacation payout for the retiring assistant town manager; increased costs for website hosting; additional costs for the regional sealer of weights and measures; a new emergency management stipend for the fire department and a $15,000 emergency management budget; grade changes and longevity payouts; and a custodian for the new public works building.

Article 2 seeks to use $2,469,640 in free cash for specific one-time capital expenses, including a facilities and grounds truck, police ATVs and motorcycles, and road and sidewalk improvements.

Article 3 seeks to appropriate $18,761 for unpaid bills from FY2025.

Article 4 seeks to appropriate $4.5 million from free cash to the town stabilization fund to be used for future one-time purchases or projects.

Article 5 seeks to establish a debt stabilization fund that may be used in the future to mitigate debt impact on residents for large capital projects — including, Curran noted, future school building projects. Article 6 seeks to appropriate $2,500,000 from free cash to the debt stabilization fund.

Article 7 seeks to appropriate $1,490,000 from water enterprise retained earnings to fund water infrastructure improvements, sludge residual process analysis, and raw water intake pump replacement.

Article 8 seeks to appropriate $400,000 from the PFAS settlement fund to conduct an operational study assessing the efficiency and safety of the water treatment plant and make capital improvements at the plant.

Article 9 seeks to appropriate $22,000 in Community Preservation Act funds to rehabilitate the varsity baseball field at Tewksbury Memorial High School.

Articles 10 and 11 seek to authorize the Select Board to lease the North Street School for 30 years, and to file a home rule petition with the state legislature to allow the town to lease the school for up to 99 years. The school was decommissioned alongside the Trahan School in 2023 and its future has been debated for several years as the town has sought proposals for reuse.

Article 12 seeks to allow the town to lease a portion of the Heath Brook School property to a cell tower carrier; the lease of land would generate revenue for the town.

Article 13 seeks to amend the town bylaws to transfer permitting authority for stormwater management and erosion control from the planning board to the conservation commission to be more consistent with the state Department of Environmental Protection's regulations. The change is intended to streamline the permitting process for applicants and remove redundancies and additional hearings currently required.

Articles 14 and 15 seek to accept sidewalk and drainage easements at 2131 Main St. and 19 Bemis Circle.

The Finance Committee's public hearing on the warrant will be held on Sept. 29 at town hall. Special Town Meeting will be held on Oct. 7 at 7 p.m. at Tewksbury Memorial High School. The warrant is available online at *www.tewksbury-ma.gov*.

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MassDEP foad waste ban boosts business

BOSTON — A recent report quantifies the substantial economic impact of the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection's (MassDEP) ban on commercial food waste disposal. This initiative is a significant contributor to the state's economy, generating jobs and revenue.

Key report findings include:

• Creating 1,676 well-paying jobs, resulting in $143 million in labor income;

• Generating $194 million in economic value (in addition to the labor income and intermediate inputs); and

• Cumulatively generating more than $390 million in industry activity.

"Massachusetts is a leader in reducing food waste," said Governor Maura Healey. "Our state's businesses and institutions have stepped up to innovate and reduce their waste, and this report shows that the long-term impacts are positive. Finding an alternative to throwing away good food is a boost for our communities, our economy, and our environment."

"This report reaffirms our commitment to reduce, reuse, and recycle here in Massachusetts," said Lieutenant Governor Kim Driscoll. "Massachusetts has created the necessary infrastructure to ensure good, healthy food does not go to waste. For our cities and towns, this means getting food to those who need it first and foremost. It means jobs for our residents, and it conserves resources and supports local budgets."

The disposal ban targets businesses and institutions that produce over half a ton of food waste weekly, including supermarkets, colleges, hotels, hospitals, nursing homes, restaurants, and food service providers. These entities must redirect their food waste from landfills to sustainable solutions such as food recovery services, composting, and anaerobic digestion — turning organic waste into renewable energy.

The number of facilities participating in food waste services has notably increased from 1,350 in 2014 to an estimated 4,150 by 2024. This growth has stimulated economic activity in related sectors, benefiting communities across the state.

"This report confirms what we've long known that banning food waste is not just an environmental win but also an economic one," said Energy and Environmental Affairs Secretary Rebecca Tepper. "By reducing waste, creating jobs, and lowering costs, this policy helps build stronger communities and a more resilient economy."

"These results illustrate how our food waste ban is protecting the environment while helping businesses," said MassDEP Commissioner Bonnie Heiple. "The food waste ban is a critical piece of our strategy to reduce waste. But it does so much more. The program lowers disposal costs, reduces methane emissions, creates clean energy, produces nutrient-rich fertilizer for our farms, supports jobs, strengthens the economy, and helps get good food to people in need. We're proud of this success and excited to build on it."

As more businesses engage with food collection programs, awareness about food waste issues continues to grow, promoting initiatives for food rescue, donation, and waste prevention.

Additionally, MassDEP funds RecyclingWorks in Massachusetts, which is a resource for businesses providing free technical assistance and online resources to support their recycling and diversion efforts. RecyclingWorks has helped divert more than 325,000 tons of material from disposal since 2013.

For more information on RecyclingWorks, visit their website: *https://recyclingworksma.com/*

For more information on the Commercial Food Material Disposal Ban program, visit the MassDEP webpage: *https://www.mass.gov/guides/commercial-food-material-disposal-ban*

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9/25&10/2

Town Crier seeking writer

The Town Crier is seeking someone to cover Wilmington Select Board, School Committee and Planning Board meetings. If interested, please email *ryan@yourtowncrier.com* for more information.

Tewksbury Community Market to host 30 vendors

TEWKSBURY — The Tewksbury Community Market will host more than 30 vendors on Thursday, Sept. 25, 2025, from 4 to 7 p.m., at Livingston Street Park (288 Livingston St.), behind the Recreation Center.

The Sept. 25 market will feature the following vendors:

FOOD TRUCKS

- Birds Nest Italian Street Food (sliders, deep fried manicotti, mozzarella sticks, fried ravioli)
- Empanada Dada (empanadas)
- Queen Bean Coffee (coffee)
- The Stand (fresh squeezed lemonade)
- Whoopie Wagon (whoopie pies)
- Zao Non-Dairy Gelato (gelato)

FOOD VENDORS

- BitzNPeace Farm (fresh vegetables, maple syrup, eggs, plants, flowers)
- Black Sheep Craft Ice Cream (craft ice cream in pints & half pints)
- Blisspoint Meadery (mead)
- Demi Doux Soda (low-sugar soda)
- Drive-By Pies (sweet & savory pies, pastries)
- Farmer Palmer (garlic products)
- Fudge 'n Stuff (homemade fudge, popcorn, kettle corn, candied nuts)
- Full Shade Farm (mushrooms)
- F-Word Farm (craft vinegar)
- Holy Moly Snacks (beef chips)
- Pleasant Valley Gardens Farm (fresh vegetables, local fruit, plants)
- Roma's Bakery (bread, pies, pastries, cookies, pizza)
- Sophie's Apples (gourmet candy apples)
- Tewksbury Honey (honey & honey related products)
- Tewksbury Public Library's Community Garden (organic vegetables, fruit)
- Totally Nutz (pecans, almonds, cashews)

ARTISANS & CRAFTERS

- Amy's She Shed Creations (signs, glassware, wreaths, handmade items)
- The Happiest Lamb Knits (knitted hats, other knitted items)
- Kari Lemor (romance author)
- KC Styles Accessories (handmade jewelry, scarves, headbands)
- Kidz Kouture (hair bows, headbands)
- MikeySoph Creations (tumblers, keychains, bookmarks, Tewksbury items)
- Paper Pie (kids books)

COMMUNITY GROUPS

- New England Alzheimer's Association
- Northern Middlesex Council of Governments
- Tewksbury Historical Society

The Tewksbury Community Market runs from 4 to 7 p.m. every Thursday, from June 5, 2025 to Oct. 9, 2025. Please note the Market has more than 70 vendors and its lineup changes from week to week.

Visit the Tewksbury Community Market's website at *www.tewksburymarket.com* to learn more. Follow the Tewksbury Community Market's Facebook (*@TewksburyMarket*), Twitter/X (*@TewksburyMarket*), and Instagram (*@TewksburyCommunityMarket*) for additional market updates throughout the season.

Have a question about the market? Contact Community/Economic Development Planner Alex Lowder at 978-640-4370 x 248 or *alowder@tewksbury-ma.gov* and Community Outreach Librarian Robert Hayes at 978-640-4490 x 205 or *rhayes@tewksburypl.org*.

Volunteers needed for Bambino Baseball

TEWKSBURY — Volunteers are needed for Bambino Baseball in Tewksbury. Buddy up with a player to run the bases or help in the outfield.

Sundays into October, the inclusive recreation event is open to all abilities.

11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. on Poulin Baseball Field on East Street.

Contact Dan Abbott at *daniel.paul.abbott@gmail.com* to volunteer or play.

NMCOG awarded more than $500,000 for Merrimack Watershed Revive to build long-term climate resilience

LOWELL — The Northern Middlesex Council of Governments (NMCOG), working with municipalities, regional organizations, and community partners, has been awarded $539,900 through the Healey-Driscoll Administration's Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) Program to launch Merrimack Watershed Revive: A Vision for Regional Resilience.

The ambitious, multiphase initiative will provide a watershed-scale Hydrologic and Hydraulic (H&H) model to guide investments that reduce flooding, protect critical infrastructure, and strengthen climate resilience across the Lower Merrimack watershed.

To develop the model and engage communities, NMCOG is partnering with the Merrimack River Watershed Council (MRWC), the Lowell Parks & Conservation Trust (LP&CT), The Nature Conservancy (TNC), and local conservation organizations. 13 municipalities — Andover, Bedford, Billerica, Chelmsford, Dracut, Dunstable, Littleton, Lowell, Pepperell, Tewksbury, Tyngsborough, Westford, and Wilmington — are engaged in the project, representing nearly 400,000 residents.

The initiative builds on Phase 1, funded by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP), which developed a shared stormwater asset inventory and mapping platform.

Phase 2, supported by the MVP award, will expand Phase 1 to deliver a watershed-scale model, culvert prioritization framework, and targeted community engagement. A future Phase 3 will move into implementation of green infrastructure and workforce development.

"By working together regionally at the watershed scale, communities can address flooding more effectively and build long-term resilience," said Jennifer Raitt, Executive Director of NMCOG.

"This project demonstrates the power of regional collaboration," said Curt Rogers, Executive Director of the MRWC. "By pairing technical expertise with community engagement, we can turn data into solutions that protect both people and ecosystems."

In addition to technical modeling, the project will strengthen community resilience through youth programming in Lowell, multilingual outreach in Environmental Justice neighborhoods, and public engagement at community events. MRWC will also lead training for municipal staff and volunteers to assess culverts and build local capacity for climate planning.

Critical next steps identified in Merrimack Watershed Revive include:

- Developing a Regional H&H Model — Simulating storm events, assessing flood risks, and evaluating future climate scenarios.
- Training and Culvert Assessments — Building municipal capacity to evaluate infrastructure and prioritize upgrades.
- Advancing Equity and Engagement — Supporting outreach in Environmental Justice communities and involving youth in climate resilience.
- Promoting Nature-Based Solutions — Identifying opportunities for stream restoration, floodplain reconnection, and green infrastructure investments.

The project highlights opportunities such as reducing risks to Environmental Justice neighborhoods, protecting emergency access during storm events, and guiding long-term water resource planning for drinking water and food production.

At the same time, it underscores the urgency of addressing aging infrastructure, cross-boundary flood risks, and the need for coordinated regional investment.

About the Northern Middlesex Council of Governments

NMCOG is one of thirteen regional planning agencies within Massachusetts. Formed under Chapter 40B of the Massachusetts General Laws, NMCOG serves the municipalities of Billerica, Chelmsford, Dracut, Dunstable, Lowell, Pepperell, Tewksbury, Tyngsborough, and Westford to support and enhance a wide range of planning objectives related to land use, environmental protection, climate resiliency, economic development, housing, municipal service delivery, and transportation.

NMCOG's professional staff assist member communities in designing, facilitating, and implementing programs and planning initiatives which further the interests of the overall region. NM COG staff also serve as staff to the Northern Middlesex MPO, to which they provide comprehensive transportation planning services for the region under contract with the Massachusetts Department of Transportation.

For more information, visit *https://www.nmcog.org*.

About the Lowell Parks & Conservation Trust

The Lowell Parks & Conservation Trust (LP&CT) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to conserving open space, preserving historic sites, and promoting environmental education in Lowell. LP&CT partners with schools, community organizations, and residents to connect people with nature and build environmental stewardship.

For more information, visit *https://lowellandtrust.org*.

About the Merrimack River Watershed Council

The Merrimack River Watershed Council (MR WC) works to protect and improve the health of the Merrimack River Watershed for all people and wildlife. MRWC provides science-based research, advocacy, and education while engaging communities in stewardship of this critical regional resource.

For more information, visit *https://merrimack.org*.

About the Nature Conservancy

The Nature Conservancy (TNC) is a global conservation organization dedicated to conserving the lands and waters on which all life depends. In Massachusetts, TNC partners with communities to advance climate resilience, protect biodiversity, and support equitable environmental outcomes.

For more information, visit *https://www.nature.org/en-us/about-us/where-we-work/united-states/massachusett*

Lithium-ion battery protest

Residents were out again on Saturday protesting a proposed lithium-ion battery storage site in Tewksbury. A public hearing on the matter will be held on Oct. 9 at TMHS by the Energy Facilities Siting Board from 6:30 - 9 p.m. (Paige Impink photo)

Book Stew Review

'A Dog in Georgia' by Lauren Grodstein

By EILEEN MACDOUGALL

This novel offers diverse themes and covers them all very well.

Amy, married to restaurant owner, Judd, has helped to raise his young son Ferry (as "Dos") in place of his ex-wife ("Uno"), an addict. Judd has strayed on occasion and when Amy sees that the young and attractive maitre d' has sent nude pictures to his phone, she decides to engage in a passion project by assisting in the hunt for a missing dog in Tbilisi, Georgia.

Amy is impulsive and angry. She has no understanding about life in Georgia, about the country's fraught past and present with Putin, and is drawn into political drama via her host Irine's college student daughter Maia.

The search for Angel, the dog who is internet-famous for being a crossing guard for schoolchildren in Tbilisi, becomes secondary as Amy meets Andrei, a Russian refugee from the Ukrainian war, in Irine's home.

The warmth of the Georgian people and their loving treatment of stray dogs and their stressful lives in the shadow of Russia bring forth Amy's awakening knowledge of her privilege as a wealthy American. The story is filled with humor, lust, and pathos for humans and canines alike.

Quote: "It was a strange, lunatic foray into a world dealing with infinitely more complicated problems than her own."

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Wellness & Health

Your Money & your Health

What the Fed rate cut will mean for your finances

By CORA LEWIS
Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — The Federal Reserve cut its benchmark interest rate Wednesday for the first time in nine months. Since the last cut, progress on inflation has slowed while the labor market has cooled. That means Americans are dealing with both high prices and a challenging job market.

The federal funds rate, set by the Federal Reserve, is the rate at which banks borrow and lend to one another. While the rates that consumers pay to borrow money aren't directly linked to this rate, shifts in Fed policy affect what people pay for credit cards, auto loans, mortgages, and other financial products.

Wednesday's quarter-point cut is the first since December and lowers the Fed's short-term rate to about 4.1%, down from 4.3%. The Fed projected it will cut rates two more times before the end of the year.

The Fed has two goals when it sets the rate: one, to manage prices for goods and services, and two, to encourage full employment. This is known as the "dual mandate." Typically, the Fed might increase the rate to try to bring down inflation and decrease it to encourage faster economic growth and more hiring. The challenge now is that inflation is higher than the Fed's 2% target but the job market is weak, putting the Fed in a difficult position.

"The dual mandate is always a balancing act," said Elizabeth Renter, senior economist at personal finance site NerdWallet.

Here's what to know:

A CUT WILL IMPACT MORTGAGES GRADUALLY

For prospective homebuyers, the market has already priced in the rate cut, which means it's "unlikely to make a noticeable difference for most consumers at the time of the announcement," according to Bankrate financial analyst Stephen Kates.

"Much of the impact on mortgage rates has already occurred through anticipation alone," he said. "(Mortgage) rates have been falling since January and dropped further as weaker-than-expected economic data pointed to a cooling economy."

Still, Kates said a declining interest rate environment will provide some relief for borrowers over time.

"Whether it's a homeowner with a 7% mortgage or a recent graduate hoping to refinance student loans and credit card debt, lower rates can ease the burden on many indebted households by opening opportunities to refinance or consolidate," he said.

INTEREST ON SAVINGS ACCOUNTS WON'T BE AS APPEALING

For savers, falling interest rates will slowly erode attractive yields currently on offer with certificates of deposit (CDs) and high-yield savings accounts.

Right now, the best rates on offer for each have been hovering at or above 4% for CDs and at 4.6% for high-yield savings accounts, according to DepositAccounts.com.

Those are still better than the trends of recent years, and a good option for consumers who want to earn a return on money they may want to access in the near-term. A high-yield savings account generally has a much higher annual percentage yield than a traditional savings account. The national average for traditional savings accounts is currently 0.38%.

There may be a few accounts with returns of about 4% through the end of 2025, according to Ken Tumin, founder of DepositAccounts.com, but the Fed cuts will filter down to these offerings, lowering the average yields as they do.

AUTO LOANS ARE NOT EXPECTED TO DECLINE SOON

Americans have faced steeper auto loan rates over the last three years after the Fed raised its benchmark interest rate starting in early 2022. Those are not expected to decline any time soon. While a cut will contribute to eventual relief, it might be slow in arriving, analysts say.

"If the auto market starts to freeze up and people aren't buying cars, then we may see lending margins start to shrink, but auto loan rates don't move in lockstep with the Fed rate," said Bankrate analyst Stephen Kates.

Prices for new cars have leveled off recently, but remain at historically high levels, not adjusting for inflation.

INTEREST RATES - NEXT PAGE

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= By Susan M. Mooney, Esquire =

Annual legal checkup for seniors - 2025

The best advice I can give to any senior is that pre-planning for your lifetime needs is critically important, as well as planning for distribution of your estate after your death.

An annual review of your estate plan is a good practice especially for seniors, or a review at any time when laws or life circumstances change due to health, living arrangements, or finances, or at least every five (5) years. The first step in any estate plan should include documents related to lifetime planning and protections, such as a Durable Power of Attorney and Health Care Proxy. These documents take care of you during lifetime and ensure that during lifetime your financial and medical needs, intentions and wishes are followed. Further, estate planning documents, such as Wills and Trusts relate to division of your belongings and other assets after your death, in accordance with your wishes and direction.

The following is a list of documents and decisions to consider with your annual legal checkup in 2025.

1. **DURABLE POWER OF ATTORNEY:** A Power of Attorney is a very simple and inexpensive legal document that allows you to designate an individual who is authorized to act in your place during your lifetime, to conduct and participate in financial transactions on your behalf. By executing a Power of Attorney, you avoid the risk of the Court appointing a Conservator to manage your affairs if you were to become unable to do so.

2. **HEALTH CARE PROXY:** The Health Care Proxy is the single most important estate plan document that any individual can have. It is a simple and inexpensive legal document that appoints the person(s) of your choice as your health care agent, to make medical decisions on your behalf, ONLY in the event you are not legally competent or conscious to do so yourself. It is important to name agents to avoid a Court appointed Guardianship, which is costly and can be delayed for weeks or months when a decision may be needed urgently.

3. **HIPAA RELEASE:** Separate and apart and in addition to a Health Care Proxy, a HIPAA release will allow your medical team to release information to those you name on the HIPAA release, whether you are competent or not at the time.

4. **WILL:** Determine if you need a new Will, or if you need to update or amend a current Will so that your post-death wishes will be followed regarding distribution of your estate.

5. **TRUSTS:** Determine if a Trust is advisable.

A Trust may be advisable if there is a specific need for holding assets in Trust, such as to protect assets for minor children or disabled individuals, to avoid probate, for tax planning, or in some cases for long term care planning.

6. **BENEFICIARY DESIGNATIONS:** Review and update all assets that allow you to designate a beneficiary, such as Life Insurance, Annuities, IRAs, 401ks, Retirement plans, etc. Assets with beneficiary designations are NOT controlled by your Will, unless you fail to name beneficiaries.

7. **REVIEW OWNERSHIP OF BANK AND INVESTMENT ACCOUNTS:** Bank accounts and investment accounts generally allow for PAYABLE ON DEATH (POD) or TRANSFER ON DEATH (TOD) designations. This form of ownership is generally advisable, as opposed to adding children or other relative's names to joint ownership on your accounts during lifetime. Joint ownership is generally ill advised, since your assets would then be exposed to the risks of the other joint owners, such as their accidents, divorces or their other financial risks and liabilities.

8. **LONG-TERM CARE PLANNING AND ASSET PROTECTION:**

Is there any planning advisable or recommended for you for asset protection purposes in case long-term care is needed or imminent? While pre-planning is advised, in the long-term care category many folks believe that planning must be completed five (5) years prior to the need for long term care. However, this is NOT always the case. Often planning can be beneficial even at the last minute when someone is near or already in nursing home care. DO NOT PRESUME IT IS TOO LATE TO PROTECT ASSETS IF YOU DID NOT PLAN FIVE (5) YEARS IN ADVANCE.

9. **FUNERAL PLANNING:** Prepaid funeral planning is a very good idea, to ensure that your burial wishes are followed, and most especially to ensure that your funeral is paid for, without risk that your funds are depleted on nursing home care without protecting funds for a proper burial.

Every individual's situation is unique, whether related to assets, health issues, or

MOONEY - PAGE A8

Considering anesthesia for a tattoo? What anesthesiologists say you need to know

(BPT) - Tattoos have gone mainstream - about one in three U.S. adults has at least one. Some people consider the pain of getting a tattoo part of the experience or a rite of passage. Others may look for relief via numbing creams, sprays, ice packs or even anesthesia. This is especially true for large tattoos or long sessions, which can last eight hours or more. If you are considering anesthesia for a lengthy tattoo session, make sure the procedure follows the same safety standards as any elective surgery or procedure, according to new guidance from the American Society of Anesthesiologists (ASA). With National Tattoo Day on July 17, it's the perfect time to remember that safety should be as much of a priority as self-expression.

Leave tattoo anesthesia to anesthesiologists

If you choose anesthesia, you may have several options, including regional anesthesia (which only numbs part of your body), various levels of monitored sedation (from feeling drowsy but aware to not remembering any of the procedure) and general anesthesia (where you are unconscious).

No matter which type of anesthesia you receive, a tattoo artist's studio is not a medically appropriate setting. Anesthesia comes with risks beyond the tattoo itself. Just as for a colonoscopy, MRI, plastic surgery or any other procedure, anesthesia for tattooing should always be administered by a qualified anesthesia professional, such as an anesthesiologist, and in a facility that is equipped to monitor your safety and handle emergencies. Your anesthesiologist will choose the right facility based on your health and the length of the tattooing session.

"Anesthesia is very safe when delivered by an anesthesiologist, who has the education and training to provide the best care, including determining the most appropriate anesthesia for each patient, monitoring their vital signs during the procedure and managing complications if they arise," said ASA President Donald E. Arnold, M.D., FACHE, FASA. "Your anesthesiologist will be there for you before, during and after the procedure."

Tattoo anesthesia 101: What to expect and how to prepare

Before you undergo the procedure, you will meet with your anesthesiologist, who will:

* Review your medical history and conduct an exam
* Order any necessary tests or lab work
* Discuss the risks associated with anesthesia
* Determine the right type of anesthesia
* Ask if you use tobacco, alcohol, cannabis or other drugs - they can affect the anesthesia, so it's important to be honest to ensure the safest care
* Review your anesthesia plan and post-anesthesia care plan, including your follow-up care instructions

To be sure you are prepared for your anesthesia care you should:

* Bring your medical records and required test results with you when you meet with your anesthesiologist
* Arrange to have someone with you to drive you home after the procedure

Other considerations are the same as those for elective surgery, including avoiding eating or drinking before the procedure and being prepared to have a urinary catheter if the procedure is long.

Learn more by reviewing ASA's Patient Guidance on Anesthesia Care for Tattoo Procedures and visiting ASA's Made for This Moment website to understand the specific types of anesthesia care available, find out more about the critical role anesthesiologists have in keeping you safe and comfortable, and to download ASA's Anesthesia Care for Tattoo Procedures checklist.

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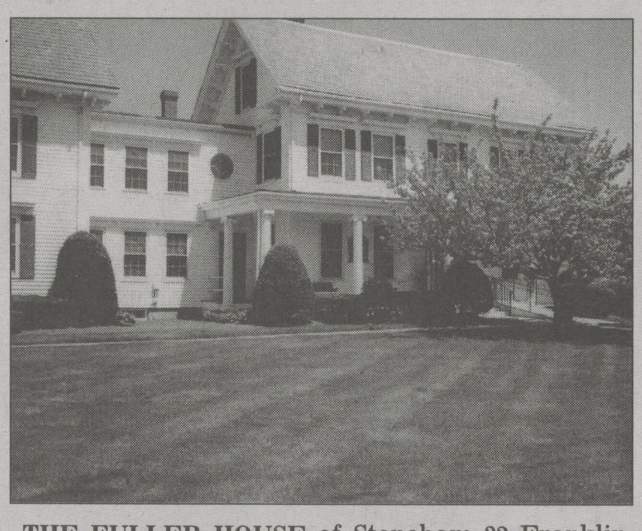

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To become a sponsor and make a contribu@on, please visit us at The Fuller House, 32 Franklin Street, Stoneham, MA 02180. For more details, contact us or schedule a visit—we would love to share our history and vision with you.

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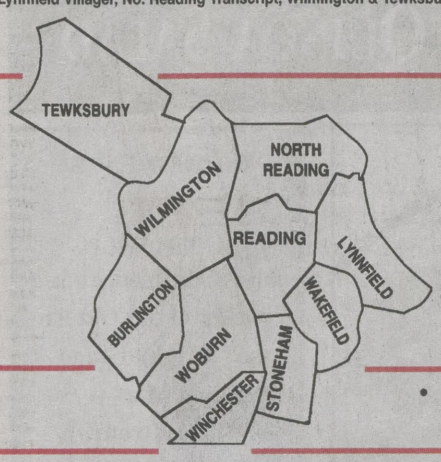

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GATHERING FOR A CAUSE - Governor Kim Driscoll gave the keynote address at Strongwater Farm's Gala last week. The therapeutic equestrian center in Tewksbury serves individuals facing significant emotional and physical challenges and/or with disabilities. Driscoll is pictured with Strongwater executive director Starlet Baker and the board of directors. Left to right: Didi LaRochelle, Mike Errera, Starlet Baker, Martha Gaffney, Peter Rodrigues, Kim Driscoll, Chris Pedersen, Chris Perley, Sue Wahr, Cynthia Basteri, and Wendy Watson. (Photo by Paige Impink)

Strong Hearts for Strongwater

By PAIGE IMPINK

Strongwater Farm, a nonprofit therapeutic equestrian center located in Tewksbury, held a very special gala recently, bringing together families, volunteers, community leaders, and state officials to celebrate the organization's mission of healing through equine-assisted services. The evening highlighted themes of purpose, connection, and the lasting impact of community support.

Executive Director Starlet Baker opened the program by reflecting on her personal journey with Strongwater Farm. First introduced as a volunteer in 2021, Baker described how the farm's mission quickly evolved from an opportunity to give back into a life-changing experience. "What brings us together is a shared purpose to provide such a unique way to fight through the challenges that people live with day in and day out," Baker said, emphasizing the sense of peace and joy the program instills for both participants and volunteers.

The impact of Strongwater Farm continues to grow. In 2024, the organization served 624 clients and logged more than 11,000 volunteer hours. For 2025, the farm is on pace to serve more than 700 clients — a milestone that staff, board members, volunteers, and donors attribute to the dedication of the entire community.

This year's gala also served as a tribute to the late Dave Wahr, a longtime supporter whose leadership and vision were instrumental in advancing the farm's mission. Stories shared during the evening recalled his kindness, persistence, and commitment to ensuring Strongwater Farm would not only survive but thrive. To honor his legacy, the organization announced the creation of the Dave Wahr Scholarship Fund, designed to expand access to therapeutic services to many more individuals in the region.

Lieutenant Governor Kim Driscoll de-

• STRONGWATER TO B2

AT THE GALA - U.S. Marine Corps Veteran Paul Robins (left) spoke about Strongwater's impact during the farm's gala event. Also in attendance was Strongwater program director and instructor Jane Kirby, (right). (Photo by Paige Impink)

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THRILL RIDE - America Ferrara, left, and Matthew McConaughey hang on for dear life in a scene from "The Lost Bus" released by Apple TV+. (Apple TV+ via AP)

Movie Reviews & Box Office News

Matthew McConaughey steers a white-knuckle wildfire drama in 'The Lost Bus'

By LINDSEY BAHR
AP Film Writer

On Nov. 8, 2018, the day one of the deadliest wildfires in U.S. history burned the town of Paradise, California, and killed 85 people, a school bus driver was sent to pick up 22 elementary school students to take them to safety. The Camp Fire was quickly spreading, communications were down and what was supposed to be a straightforward mission turned into a harrowing five-hour ordeal.

It's these events that are dramatized in "The Lost Bus," which opens in select theaters Friday before streaming on Apple TV+ on Oct. 3. Turning a recent, real-life tragedy (even the heartwarming stories that emerge from the ashes) into Hollywood entertainment requires a deft touch. Lean too far into the melodrama, and it risks resembling a made-for-TV movie. Keep it too clinical and it becomes a news segment.

But filmmaker Paul Greengrass, who has thrilled audiences with his Jason Bourne movies, taken them inside the Maersk Alabama hijacking and United flight 93, effectively toes that line. In "The Lost Bus," he and co-screenwriter Brad Ingelsby have made an old-fashioned disaster movie that is captivating, frightening and startlingly moving.

Matthew McConaughey plays that bus driver, Kevin, who is having a very bad day already. His dog is terminal, he's got bills he can't pay, he's taking care of his elderly mother in the months after his estranged father died and he's just had an awful fight with his teenage son (a small, but effective performance from McConaughey's actual son Levi).

Kevin just can't seem to catch a break and is feeling sorry for himself, dealing with his boss, annoyed calls from his ex-wife and a teenager who woke up with a bad fever. Then he starts noticing the plumes of smoke in the distance. He's on his way to deliver medicine to his son when the call comes in over the radio: Is any bus driver in the area available to deliver 22 children to a safe location? You can feel the agony, and slight annoyance, as Kevin waits for a beat hoping in vain that someone else is available.

Greengrass and Ingelsby smartly interweave Kevin's lousy morning with the beginnings of the fire, showing the methodology of the competent first responders attempting to manage a situation that is quickly spiraling out of control. Greengrass sustains a feeling of dread for the duration of the film, a white-knuckle experience that only gets more stressful when the children are added to the equation.

When Kevin gets to the school, he's not in any mood to gently walk the scared kids through this situation gently, insisting that a teacher, Mary (America Ferrera) come along for the ride to handle them. Kevin is not a likely hero. He's barely even a reluctant one. He's simply a down-on-his-luck guy who showed up and, ultimately, did something extraordinary.

This isn't a superhero story, however he is treated with more empathy than, say, Tom Cruise's bad dad in "War of the Worlds." There is an interesting thread woven into the story about absentee dads and regret, that extends even beyond Kevin, his late father and his son.

Watching Ferrara and McConaughey drive this school bus through the flames and collapsing power cables sometimes brings "Speed" to mind. Occasionally, it veers a bit too far into spectacle and you start to question just how much the action has been upped for audience excitement. Perhaps these things really did unfold as they're presented, but at times it feels like you're suddenly on the Universal Studio Tour.

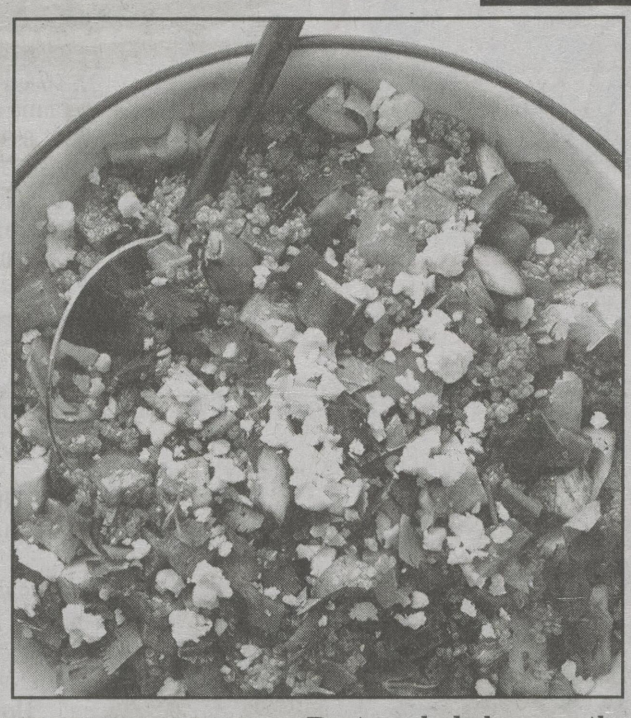
Still, it's impossible to take your eyes off the screen, away from the inferno and the sense of our own smallness and helplessness to "battle it," whatever that is supposed to mean. There is certainly a version of this story, adapted from Lizzie Johnson's novel "Paradise: One Town's Struggle to Survive an American Wildfire," that could have focused on the firefighters. They do get a spotlight here, and the fire chief gets to say that these burns are only getting worse every year. But if you're looking for that movie, perhaps you should turn to Joseph Kosinski's "Only the Brave."

"The Lost Bus" is about a few ordinary people in an impossible situation just trying to survive. While it's not hard to wring emotion out of an audience watching kids in peril, it also, in some ways, gets right to the very heart of the matter.

"The Lost Bus," an Apple Original Films release in select theaters Sept. 19 and streaming on Apple TV+ on Oct. 3, is rated R by the Motion Picture Association of America for "language." Running time: 129 minutes. Three stars out of four. Find more movie reviews at homenewshere.com.

HomeNewsHere RECIPE

Grilled Mexican Quinoa Salad



KEEN ON QUINOA - Pasta salads have nothing on this picnic-perfect side. Loaded with grilled vegetables, taco seasoning mix and spiked with lime, this quinoa salad is anything but subtle. Taste buds, consider yourselves warned!

INGREDIENTS:

- 1/3 cup olive oil
- 1 1/2 cups white quinoa, drained, rinsed
- 1 packet (1 oz) Old El Paso™ Original Taco Seasoning Mix
- 2 1/4 cups from 1 carton (32 oz) Progresso™ Classic Chicken Broth
- 3 tablespoons lime juice
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 large poblano chile, cored, seeded and cut in quarters
- 1 large red bell pepper, cored, seeded and cut in quarters
- 1 medium zucchini, cut lengthwise in quarters
- 1/2 large red onion, cut into 8 wedges
- 1 teaspoon honey
- 1/2 cup crumbled Cotija cheese
- 3 tablespoons chopped fresh cilantro leaves

STEPS

Step 1
Heat gas or charcoal grill. Line 15x10x1-inch pan with foil.

Step 2
In 2-quart saucepan, heat 1 teaspoon of the oil over medium heat. Add rinsed quinoa and 2 tablespoons of the taco seasoning mix. Stir 1 minute. Add broth. Heat to simmering. Cover; reduce heat to low, and cook 15 to 18 minutes or until all of the liquid is absorbed and quinoa is fluffy. Transfer to medium bowl to cool 15 minutes.

Step 3
Meanwhile, mix remaining taco seasoning mix, 2 tablespoons of the oil, 1 tablespoon of the lime juice and the salt in small bowl. Place poblano chile, bell pepper, zucchini and onion in foil-lined pan. Brush both sides of vegetables with lime mixture. Place vegetables directly on grill over medium-high heat. Cover grill; cook 7 to 8 minutes, turning once, until grill marks appear and vegetables are crisp-tender. Cool 10 minutes. Chop vegetables, and add to bowl of cooled quinoa; stir to combine.

Step 4
In small bowl, beat remaining 2 tablespoons lime juice, remaining 3 tablespoons oil and the honey with whisk to make dressing. Stir dressing into quinoa-vegetable mixture, and transfer to platter. Top with cheese; garnish with cilantro.

EXPERT TIPS

- Quinoa is a very easy grain to prepare. Rinsing the quinoa is important to remove a natural powder coating that can have an aftertaste. This recipe uses less liquid than most package directions but yields a lighter texture.
- When cutting your onion for the grill, leave the root end on. Cut each wedge through the root, and the onion will stay together better when grilling.

Festival set for Saturday, October 11

Music to fill Woburn's streets at upcoming Porchfest 2025

WOBURN, Mass. — Music lovers will once again take to the streets next month when Woburn hosts its annual Porchfest, turning front steps, porches and neighborhood corners into live performance venues.

The community music festival is set for Saturday, Oct. 11, 2025, with a rain date of Sunday, Oct. 12. Performances will take place throughout the afternoon and evening at homes and public spaces across the city.

Acts include longtime local favorites and first-time performers, ranging from rock and jazz to folk and a cappella. Highlights include:

5 Bronislaw St.: What's Shakin (1-3 p.m.) and That's Ben Gardner's Boat (3:30-5:30 p.m.).

6 Beach St. and 36 Clinton St.: Tuesdays Just as Bad (12:30-1:15 p.m.), Big Bad Bobby and The Shoe Horns (2:30-3:15 p.m.), Cherrybomb (4:30-5:15 p.m.), Kevin Wall (1:30 p.m.), Teddy Larkin and The Haulers (3:30 p.m.), and Invasive Species (5:30 p.m.).

58 Robinson Rd.: Acoustic Mix (12-1 p.m.), Jango (1-2 p.m.), Naked Gun (2-3 p.m.), The Offramps (3-5 p.m.), and Murder Hornets (5-7 p.m.).

70 Mount Pleasant St.: The Mark Pfaff Jazz Ensemble will perform all day.

Pocket Park: Rebecca Burke and the Pocket Busters (12-2 p.m.), Beyond Boston (2-4 p.m.), and Nick LaFauci (4-6 p.m.).

17 Arlington Rd. (Freemasons, sponsored by the Freemasons and Regent Theatre): The Rough Ashlars (12-2 p.m.), Jeff Bellin (2-4 p.m.), and Bare Bright (4-6 p.m.).

523 Main St. (United Methodist Church): Antarctica: 60s/70s Pop (1-2:30 p.m.) and Cliff and Carl (2:30-4 p.m.).

10 Dix Rd.: Rose Mountain Band with Ohan (1-3 p.m.) and Rain Dog (3:30-5 p.m.).

4 Todd Rd.: Boston Skyline Chorus (12-1 p.m.) and Ariel Strasser Band (following).

28 Rich Rd.: Classic Bang (3 p.m.).

6 Fairview Terr.: Ten Gold Dollars and additional acts TBD.

10 Dawes Cir.: Band with a View (1-2 p.m.), Shadows of the Mountain (2-3 p.m.), and The Vibe Tribe (3-4 p.m.).

14 John St.: Garrett Z on Guitar.

Additional performances are expected to be announced closer to the event.

Porchfest organizers reminded attendees that set times are subject to change. Residents are encouraged to walk between sites, support local performers and enjoy a day of community music.

Contact woburnporchfest@gmail.com with questions.

• STRONGWATER FROM B1

livered keynote remarks, recognizing Strongwater as a model of compassion, resilience, and inclusion. "Horses have this remarkable gift. They connect with people in ways that words sometimes can't," Driscoll said. "Whether you're a child facing developmental challenges, a veteran coping with trauma, or an adult working through illness or disability, Strongwater Farm offers healing that goes beyond medicine." She commended the organization's volunteers and donors, noting that their work strengthens public health and builds stronger communities across Massachusetts.

The program also featured moving personal stories from participants and volunteers. Paul Robins, a Marine Corps veteran, described how he first came to Strongwater through a referral from the Lowell Veterans Center. Initially skeptical about equine therapy, Robins quickly discovered the value of the program. "After just a couple sessions, I didn't feel like it was group therapy," he said. "It was more of a friendship or family gathering. Strongwater has changed me in such a positive way, I can't stop telling other veterans about it." And the horses, who are the true heroes of the farm, were also recognized. Said Robins, "The effect that King, Twinkle, and Cream Cheese have had is not anything I can put into words."

Other testimonials highlighted the benefits for individuals with autism, those living with physical or emotional challenges, and families seeking new ways to foster connection. Benefactor and Tewksbury resident Chris Perley credited the program with helping his son achieve calm after his riding sessions.

But volunteers also reap benefits through helping. Debbie Banda of Andover, who helps in the barns, emphasized that no prior horse experience is necessary to get involved, as the farm offers training and many opportunities — from barn work to lesson assistance to administrative support. Jerry Phaneuf of Tewksbury uses his carpentry skills to build structures and make repairs on the property. Program manager Jane Kirby said all help is welcomed and appreciated.

Strongwater's reach extends beyond its barn and riding arenas. The organization's programs, staff, and equine partners are credited with helping clients reduce stress, improve motor skills, build resilience, and rediscover self-confidence. For many, the farm provides a vital sense of belonging and hope.

"Strongwater Farm is not just a farm," Lt. Gov. Driscoll said. "It is a community that heals together, grows together, and lifts one another up."

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• Real Estate Transfers •

BURLINGTON

59 Center St #307 was sold to Poulos, James and Poulos, Kanella by Keenan Ann Patricia Est and Judkins, Ann P for $277,200 on 08/25/25

20 Hilltop Dr was sold to Chan, Jason by Chen, Judy C for $685,000 on 08/26/25

27 Keans Rd was sold to Richards, Connor S and Richards, Stephanie by Speicher, Daniel S and Reese, Rhonda L for $820,000 on 08/27/25

9 Knollwood Ct #9 was sold to Jeanette Even Ft and Even, Jeanette by Barbara R Koren T and Koren, Barbara R for $925,000 on 08/27/25

12 Murray Ave #18 was sold to Upadhyay, Dhruvkumar and Mehta, Kreena by Dong, Xiyang for $875,000 on 08/29/25

15 Princeton Rd was sold to Meroth, Sundie L by Bhatia, Prithipal and Bhatia, Jaswinder K for $815,000 on 08/29/25

14 Sandy Brook Rd was sold to Remy, Daphney by Opendoor Property J LLC for $750,000 on 08/28/25

5 Shady Lane Dr was sold to Cdg Investments LLC by Carberry, Charlotte M for $650,000 on 08/27/25

15 Treetop Ct #15 was sold to Musselman Ft Of 2023 and Musselman, Barbara J by Felsa Satlow T and Satlow, Felsa for $937,000 on 08/25/25

10 Wall St was sold to 2-10 Wall St Owner LLC by Auburn-Oxford T and Gutierriez Jr, Arthur J for $10,500,000 on 08/25/25

2 Wall St was sold to 2-10 Wall St Owner LLC by Auburn-Oxford T and Gutierriez Jr, Arthur J for $10,500,000 on 08/25/25

LYNNFIELD

36 Greenwood Rd was sold to Palumbo, Alexandra R and Palumbo, Nicholas K by Defilippo Jr, Gerald and Defilippo, Stephanie D for $750,000 on 08/25/25

35 Homestead Rd was sold to Rkaco LLC by Andrew P Hocking Sr Irt and Hocking Jr, Andrew P for $650,000 on 08/26/25

410 Lowell St was sold to Rauseo, David M and Rauseo, Beth R by Rauseo, Frank J and Rauseo, David M for $584,111 on 08/29/25

909 Main St was sold to Couture, Jordan and Grzybowski, Fay-Valerie by Sheehan, Amanda M and Sheehan, Ryan C for $850,930 on 08/28/25

29 Stillman Rd was sold to Sheehan, Ryan C and Sheehan, Amanda M by 29 Stillman Rd Rt and Burnham, Allan W for $1,000,000 on 08/29/25

38 Wildewood Dr was sold to Ronald J Torlone 2019 T and Torlone, Nancy A by Ng, Chee Y and Ng, Frances for $1,400,000 on 08/28/25

NORTH READING

175 Central St was sold to Vacca, Craig and Vacca, Mei by Goldberg, Jane G and Goldberg, Molly M for $901,000 on 08/26/25

16 Cranberry Meadow Way was sold to Douglas, Rory and Cohen, Liana by Jamieson Development LLC for $1,899,000 on 08/28/25

2 Cranberry Meadow Way was sold to Patel, Mayank and Patel, Twinkle by Jamieson Development LLC for $2,199,000 on 08/28/25

4 Demetri Ln was sold to Demetri Brothers Ma LLC by Demetri, Michael C for $610,000 on 08/29/25

109 Main St was sold to 109 Main St North Reading by Gao Zhuo LLC for $1,600,000 on 08/26/25

240 Martins Lndg #207 was sold to Great Life LLC by Fudge, David S and Fudge, Sandra J for $699,000 on 08/26/25

240 Martins Lndg #405 was sold to Vozzella, Frank and Vozzella, Mary by Mccarthy, Maureen W for $560,000 on 08/28/25

300 Martins Lndg #212 was sold to Kwon, Han S and Kwon, Soon A by Pulte Hm Of New Eng LLC for $515,000 on 08/27/25

300 Martins Lndg #105 was sold to Montalvo, Sonia H by Pulte Hm Of New Eng LLC for $251,800 on 08/27/25

9 Shasta Dr was sold to Collard, Catherine and Collard, Scott D by Budny 3rd, Alexander E and Budny, Maureen for $1,810,000 on 08/28/25

READING

36 Abigail Way #4003 was sold to Barnes, Lori A and Barnes, Kenneth L by Felts Ft and Popken, Jeannine for $505,000 on 08/29/25

9 Abigail Way #4005 was sold to Jang, Dongman and Yoon, Ah Y by Larossa, Maria K for $263,876 on 08/28/25

57 Augustus Ct #1013 was sold to Butt Ft and Butt, Warren D by Kotzuba, James and Kotzuba, Nancy for $669,000 on 08/27/25

16 Border Rd was sold to Wu, Wing T and Pandey, Aayush by Hassan, Syed M and Anwar, Kanwal for $1,090,000 on 08/29/25

9 Brentwood Dr was sold to Scippa, Peter R by Mehta, Vineet and Arloro-Mehta, Julie for $880,000 on 08/29/25

51 Colburn Rd was sold to Pellegrino, Christalee and Pellegrino, Domenic by Garrity Michael J Est and Garrity, Patricia R for $500,000 on 08/27/25

15 Fairmount Rd was sold to Kenney, Kathleen P and Kenney, Joseph by Twiss Ft and Twiss, Gennifer T for $672,000 on 08/27/25

486 Franklin St was sold to Dobrusin, Colby A and Shine, Bridget M by Chang, Siu L for $659,000 on 08/29/25

609 Gazebo Cir #609 was sold to Westenberg, Andreea by Walsh, Richard J and Walsh, Nancy A for $587,000 on 08/29/25

150 Grove St was sold to Mgfnf LLC by Richey Ft Of 2013 and Richey, Susan L for $610,000 on 08/25/25

39 Taylor Dr #1002 was sold to Duffy, Thomas J and Duffy, Claudina by Johnson Woods Realty Cor for $785,000 on 08/28/25

22 Union St #3 was sold to Siagel, Casey A by Theodoridis, Stephen S and Flaherty, Kathleen E for $415,000 on 08/28/25

STONEHAM

137 Franklin St #206 was sold to Ercolini, Tracie by Dibenedetto Rt and Dibenedetto, Elizabeth for $480,000 on 08/26/25

236 Hancock St was sold to Ashraf, Faryal and Rashid, Abdurrehman by Granara, James C for $829,000 on 08/28/25

66 Main St #58A was sold to Lela, Dorela and Lela, Roland by Dwyer Jr James R Est and Dwyer-Mcquade, Loretta for $415,000 on 08/26/25

66 Main St #37A was sold to Peng, Kanglun and Li, Li by Stellson LLC for $235,000 on 08/29/25

TEWKSBURY

1243 Andover St was sold to Norris, Elizabeth and Niedel, Bradford by Alfano, Belinda for $1,095,000 on 08/29/25

1026 Chandler St #B was sold to Doherty, Melissa by Silva, Andrew and Silva, Nichole for $740,000 on 08/28/25

9 Davis Rd was sold to Dibiasio, Anthony and Wilson, Jacquelyn by Liss, Corey and Cosimo, Thomas L for $685,000 on 08/27/25

109 Maryland Rd was sold to Delgado, Jessica by Theodore S Fahey LLC for $850,000 on 08/26/25

5 Oakland Ave was sold to Pasqual, Michael E by Sanborn, Dana E and Sanborn, Elda P for $660,000 on 08/29/25

15 Pinewood Rd was sold to New England Hm Buyers LLC by Touchette, Megan A for $455,000 on 08/29/25

144 South St was sold to Patil, Dipali S by Stack Keiko Kuroda Est and Stack, Ken E for $480,000 on 08/25/25

25 Vernon St was sold to Barbo, Thomas and Barbo, Emma by 25 Vernon Street LLC for $820,000 on 08/28/25

WAKEFIELD

49-A Chestnut St #1 was sold to Nugent, Katelyn by Sauder, Stephanie and Simone Jr, Nicholas J for $760,000 on 08/29/25

23 Grafton St was sold to Emmens, Jack and Paskerian, Rebecca L by Cyr, Kathleen T for $855,000 on 08/29/25

7 Hanson St was sold to Phatak, Sharvari and Swan, Chaitanya by Coscia, Lisa A for $700,000 on 08/28/25

20 Lawrence St #20 was sold to Olanoff, Dinah by J-Marg Lawrence Rt and Piscatelli, David T for $899,900 on 08/28/25

234 Water St #301 was sold to Kruppa, Damon by Ba, Mamadou for $420,000 on 08/29/25

WILMINGTON

7 Clark St was sold to Smith, Colin by Curtis, Pauline A for $712,000 on 08/29/25

1 Eleanor Dr was sold to Fedyk, Rachel and Fedyk, William by Paris, Ross J and Paris, Leela L for $1,350,000 on 08/28/25

203 Lowell St #106 was sold to Rizzo, Anna S and Shum, David by 203 Lowell St Owner LLC for $619,000 on 08/27/25

Ogunquit Rd was sold to Bell Point LLC by Camiel, Irving S for $12,900 on 08/26/25

171 Taft Rd was sold to Cobuccio, Joseph by Pisari Jr, Michael A and Pisari, Deborah A for $861,000 on 08/26/25

WINCHESTER

107 Cambridge St was sold to Kosinski, Shane M and Sheehy, Kathleen M by 107 Cam St Winchester LL for $2,350,000 on 08/29/25

12 Olde Lyme Rd was sold to Delaney, Matthew J and Delaney, Anne M by Tinmouth, Leigh C and Tinmouth, Taylor for $2,500,000 on 08/27/25

171 Swanton St #64 was sold to Craig, William and Craig, Anna by Zhang, Haosheng and Zhang, Su for $825,000 on 08/29/25

29 Vine St #7 was sold to Chen, Peitong by Damyanov, Georgi and Dimova, Juliana for $720,000 on 08/26/25

17 Wagon Wheel Rd was sold to Cirnigliaro, David and Shimada-Cirnigliaro, Keik by Li, Jubei and Chen, Yahong for $2,218,500 on 08/29/25

70 Woodside Rd was sold to Huang, Jennifer and Huang, James by James Butt Ft and Butt, Warren D for $1,200,000 on 08/27/25

WOBURN

108 Arlington Rd was sold to Banker, Aaron by Zhong, Xiaozhen and Yang, Liyan for $660,000 on 08/28/25

74 Beach St #6-9 was sold to Francis, James and Francis, Katarina by Angelli, Nicolette C for $335,000 on 08/29/25

2 Inwood Dr #2001 was sold to Ruiz, Daniel by Lecaroz, Michael E for $630,000 on 08/29/25

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Tewksbury Police Log

Local resident reportedly had credit card stolen

Monday, September 15

12:09 a.m. - Female party reported an unknown emergency in Lowell requesting "the FBI and the CIA" for an unknown emergency at Motel 6. The caller called back reporting she was dropped off by Lowell Police Department and she "needed the FBI" to get her wallet at her family member's house in order to rent a hotel room. Police sent. Female had a domestic issue previously in their city and male half of the domestic issue bought her a Lyft. All units cleared and no crimes occurred in Tewksbury. Officer filed a report.

9:39 a.m. - A 911 caller reported a flat bed tow truck ran a red-light and almost hit two vehicles at Haffner's. Police sent. They checked the area, but they were unable to locate.

5:33 p.m. - Caller reported two parties on e-bike weaving in and out of traffic at Kyoto's Steak House heading south toward route 38. Police sent. They checked the Main Street and South Street to Pleasant Street. They were gone on arrival.

9:17 p.m. - Employee reported a suspicious vehicle parked at the pump for the last 20 minutes at Petrol Station. Police sent. The person was an Uber driver waiting for his next customer.

Tuesday, September 16

8:43 a.m. - Caller reported the vehicle was broken into overnight at Patrick Road. Police sent. Officer filed a report.

10:28 a.m. - Caller reported a gray Chevy Tahoe was sitting next to the area of Elm Street and Lowell Street. Police sent and the party checked out.

7:28 p.m. - Caller out of the The Residences at Tewksbury reported his upstairs neighbor was constantly banging on the floor. Police sent. Both parties were spoken to.

9:51 p.m. - Caller reported her motion detector alarm had been going off and would like to speak to an officer at Whipple Road. Caller did state she had cameras around her house. Police sent. Device was malfunctioning.

Wednesday, September 17

2:38 a.m. - Police checking on male party at parking lot of Hilton Garden Inn. Units reported male party checked out.

12:42 p.m. - Ongoing suspicious actives at Ames Hill Drive. She believed to be 94c activity. Officer spoke with the reporting party. Advice given.

8:29 p.m. - Caller reported the Tree House Brewery vehicle was speeding in the parking lot and almost hit a pedestrian. Caller texted this into dispatch and was no longer in the area. Police sent. They advised vehicle was not in the lot. Nothing seen or heard.

Thursday, September 18

12:10 a.m. - Erratic driver traveled north bound on Livingston Street all over the road and almost veered into other vehicle. They took a left on North Street and turned into the driveway on the right hand side. Police sent. The female checked out.

11:45 a.m. - Large white SUV with Melrose written on the side of it at Marshalls. There was a dog inside the vehicle looking like it was in distress. Police sent and animal control notified, but not available at this time. Officer checked the area. No matching vehicle and no cars with dogs in them.

Friday, September 19

7:50 a.m. - Caller stated he found a brown pitbull and he put the dog in his backyard and went to work but the Animal Control could access his backyard at Chandler Street. Animal Control had been notified and took possession of the dog.

1:35 p.m. - Caller reported her husband's credit card was stolen two days ago at Babicz Road. When the credit card was stolen, they ordered a cell phone. The cell phone was delivered today and the caller gave the cellphone to the person he believed stole the credit card. Police sent and the officer filed a report.

5:37 p.m. - Suspicious male party came into the bank with dark sun glasses at Salem 5 Savings Bank. The ID given was didn't appear to match the male party. Now, the male was calling the bank and making threats. Police sent. Officer filed a report.

9:23 p.m. - A 911 caller reported the upstairs neighbors had been fighting for hours, confronted the neighbors, and they told her to call the cops at Ames Hill Drove. Police sent. No domestic, just a noise complaint. All parties were spoken to.

10:59 p.m. - Caller reported vehicle in the lot doing burnouts at Dollar Tree. Police sent. They checked the lot and no vehicles were doing burnouts. Vehicles in the lot were moved on their way.

Saturday, September 20

5:07 a.m. - Caller stated a red pickup truck in the parking lot running unknown driver at McDonalds South. Police sent. The vehicle was leaving the parking lot upon hospice arrival. Vehicle was now stopped on Route 38 by Oakdale Liquors. The party checked out and was a private contractor that was sleeping in the lot. Party was attempting to review roadside. Police reported everything was cleared.

7:28 a.m. - Caller stated a raccoon was hit by a car and appeared injured in the road at Pinnacle Street. Police sent. Animal was now deceased and would filed a report. Officer filed a report.

Sunday, September 21

1:21 a.m. - Caller stated a couple of cars at Washington Street were spinning their tires and making a lot of noise. Police sent. Unfound at this time.

1:36 a.m. - Police out at Hillman Street with two people. Parties had permission from the property owner to wait on scene for their Ubers.

4:34 p.m. - Caller reported a male party was incoherent walking around the property trying to get into several rooms at Motel 6. Caller reported party was not a guest there and stated he was waiting for his brother. Caller reported he was sitting outside in front of the officer with a red backpack and a dark colored suitcase wearing a blue hood. Police sent. Ambulance sent for an alcohol PC and transported one to Saints.

Wilmington Police Log

Woman's car broken into at Tewksbury park

Friday, Sept. 12:

8:57 a.m.: A caller on Chestnut Street reported a case of identity fraud.

1:45 p.m.: A caller on Lowell Street reported hearing a child screaming, with a woman wearing red pants and a white shirt trying to force the child into a dark-colored SUV. Police spoke with the woman, and it was discovered she was trying to change her granddaughter's diaper.

5:51 p.m.: Michael Adam Holden, of 2111 Avalon Drive, in Wilmington, was issued a summons for operating an uninsured motor vehicle and operating an unregistered motor vehicle. This followed a stop of his gray 2015 Chrysler 200 on Middlesex Avenue.

Saturday, Sept. 13:

12:34 a.m.: An employee at the Cumberland Farms on Main Street reported an unruly female customer, who had recently driven off towards Tewksbury. Police did not find the woman, but it was found that there was an argument over free ice.

11:57 a.m.: An employee at Willowbrook Rehab on West Street reported an altercation between two of their patients.

8:38 p.m.: A caller on Foxrun Drive reported a dark colored SUV had pulled into his driveway, before quickly backing up and leaving after automatically turning on the outside lights. The man called back, finding that the SUV had come to deliver a package to his neighbor's house.

Sunday, Sept. 14:

8:43 a.m.: A resident on Reading Avenue reported that his brother-in-law had come to his house and was sitting on his front steps, despite being kicked out earlier. The resident ordered an Uber to bring the man to an address in Lowell, and the man was advised not to return.

5:11 p.m.: A caller on Lowell Street reported continuously receiving calls from an unknown number. Police spoke with the person calling, who admitted it was an instance of a wrong number.

5:57 p.m.: A caller reported that his car's tires had been slashed while they were at K1 Speedway on Fordham Road. Police found a puncture in the car's tire, but camera footage from the staff at K1 indicated that no one had approached the caller's car since his arrival.

Monday, Sept. 15:

8:46 a.m.: A gray 2013 Volkswagen CC and a gray 2016 Toyota Prius were involved in a motor vehicle accident on Ballardvale Street. No airbags were deployed, and no injuries were reported.

6:22 p.m.: A caller reported a minor motor vehicle accident involving a black 2014 Kia Sorento and a red 2021 Toyota Highlander near Jimmy's Garage on Main Street. No airbags were deployed, no injuries were reported, and police assisted with paperwork exchange.

Tuesday, Sept. 16:

11:52 a.m.: A black 2020 GMC Canyon and a gray 2012 Chevy Equinox were involved in a motor vehicle accident on Middlesex Avenue. No airbags were deployed, and no injuries were reported.

12:08 p.m.: A caller on Ballardvale Street reported that a tractor trailer unit backed up into his white 2015 Chevy City Express, which pushed him into another vehicle behind him, and the tractor trailer and other vehicle soon after took off from the scene.

Wednesday, Sept. 17:

8:33 a.m.: Police received a report of a suspicious black 2006 Nissan Frontier operated by a man wearing all black near the Shawsheen School on Shawsheen Avenue. The man walked into the woods behind the school. The vehicle was gone by the time police arrived.

8:34 a.m.: A black 2016 Mercedes E Class and a gray 2017 Jeep Renegade were involved in a motor vehicle accident on Woburn Street. No airbags were deployed, and no injuries were reported, but a rock wall at 522 Woburn St. was damaged and a nearby crosswalk sign was knocked over.

1:28 p.m.: A resident reported that her vehicle had been broken into at a park in Tewksbury, and that she believes someone was conducting fraudulent activities with the stolen information. The woman was advised to report the car break-in to Tewksbury, but would follow up with her on the fraud allegations.

Thursday, Sept. 18:

11:18 a.m.: A gray 2005 Ford Econoline and a blue 1984 Dodge DR250 were involved in a motor vehicle accident on North Street, with a pedestrian being struck as well during the accident.

4:52 p.m.: A gray 2018 Toyota Camry, a red 2015 Nissan Altima, and a black 2022 Chrysler Pacifica were involved in a motor vehicle accident on Middlesex Avenue. No airbags were deployed, and no injuries were reported.

Habitat for Humanity of Greater Lowell hosts Dream Builders Gala

CONCORD — Habitat for Humanity of Greater Lowell will host its 18th annual Dream Builders Gala on Friday, Oct. 3, from 6 to 10 p.m. at Nashawtuc Country Club in Concord. This signature fundraising event aims to raise over $100,000 in support of affordable housing initiatives across 16 towns in Greater Lowell.

Guests will enjoy a formal evening featuring a seated dinner, music, and silent and live auctions. Beyond a memorable night out, it's also an opportunity to connect with community leaders, business professionals, and neighbors who share a passion for making a difference.

Funds raised will directly support Habitat's mission to build, rehabilitate, and repair safe, affordable homes for low-income families in the region.

"Our community is facing a real housing crisis," said Sheilagh Carlisle, Executive Director of Habitat for Humanity of Greater Lowell. "This Gala isn't just a night out — it's a way to come together and do something meaningful. Every ticket, every donation helps a local family build a stable home and a better future. When we invest in our neighbors, we strengthen the entire community."

This year's Gala comes at a pivotal moment for the organization. Habitat for Humanity of Greater Lowell has expanded its building efforts from one home per year to four, with projects underway in Bedford, Westford, and Concord.

In Concord, HFHGL has broken ground on a new development called Assabet River Homes in partnership with the Concord Housing Development Corporation and with $1 million committed from the Concord Municipal Affordable Housing Trust.

The project will create three new homeownership opportunities, with foundations currently being installed. The total project cost is estimated at $2.1 million, and the organization is actively seeking $1 million in additional funding to support these early stages, making the Gala critical to advancing the project.

Tickets and sponsorship opportunities are available at *www.lowellhabitat.org/gala*.

About Habitat for Humanity of Greater Lowell

Habitat for Humanity of Greater Lowell brings people together to build homes, strengthen communities, and create opportunity. Serving 16 towns across northern Middlesex County, Habitat builds and rehabilitates safe, affordable housing and provides critical home repairs to help low-income families, seniors, and veterans remain safely in their homes.

Since 1991, Habitat Greater Lowell has helped more than 53 families achieve stability and self-reliance through homeownership.

Town Crier

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Wilmington police make $1M drug bust

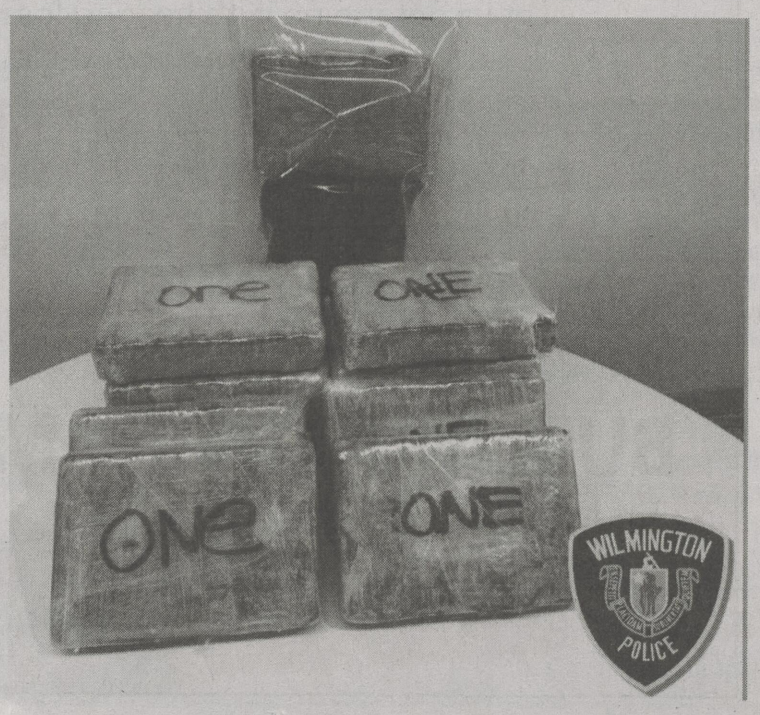
WILMINGTON — The Wilmington Police Department has seized more than 15 kilograms of cocaine from a local Federal Express facility.

The discovery was made earlier last week by local authorities. The estimated street value of the confiscated drugs exceeds $1 million. At this time, no arrests have been made.

"We are committed to disrupting the flow of illegal narcotics into our community," said Brian Pupa, Chief of the Wilmington Police Department. "This seizure represents a significant blow to those trafficking dangerous drugs in and around our community."

No additional details are being released at this time due to the sensitive nature of the investigation.

Anyone with information related to this case is encouraged to contact the Wilmington Police Department at 978-658-5071.



(Courtesy photo)

Town Crier

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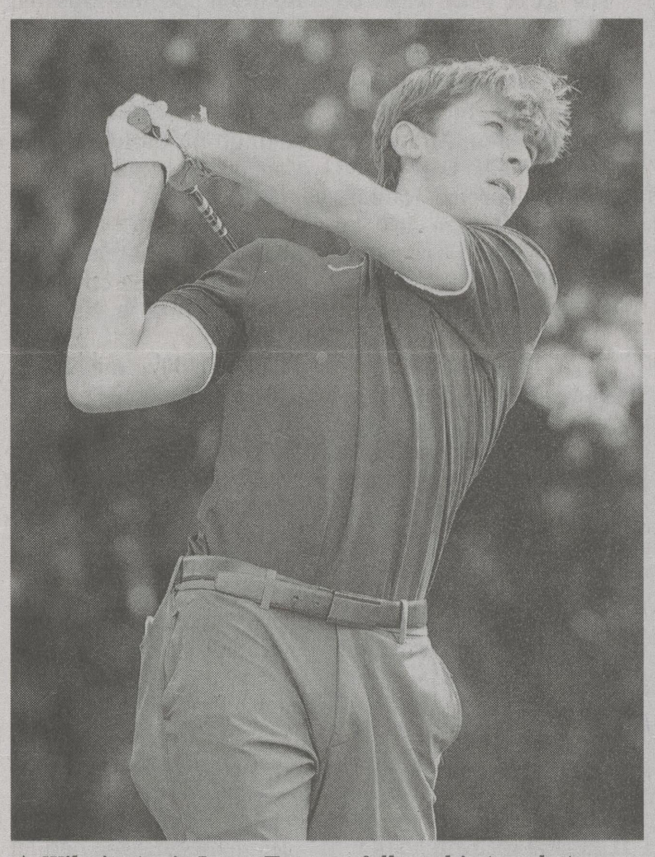
Wilmington SPORTS

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2025

▲ Wilmington's Derek Perault follows his tee shot on the second hole Tuesday at Hillview Golf Course in North Reading. Wilmington edged Ipswich, 37-35.
(Credit Image: James Thomas)



▲ Wilmington's Issac Tavares follows his tee shot on the second hole Tuesday at Hillview Golf Course in North Reading. Wilmington edged Ipswich, 37-35.
(Credit Image: James Thomas)

Wilmington High Roundup:

Football team cruises past Saugus

Boys cross country also undefeated for Wildcats

By DOUG HASTINGS
Sports Correspondent
sports@yourtowncrier.com

The Wilmington High football team improved to 2-0 last Friday with a 27-6 victory in Saugus.

The Wildcats took a 7-0 lead in the first quarter when quarterback Mark Holleran hit standout receiver Pat Delucia with a 24-yard touchdown pass.

In quarter No. 2, WHS made it 14-0 when Aidan Bellevy scored on a 9-yard run.

Before halftime, Wilmington scored again on a 16-yard run by Cam Pereira.

The final Wildcat touchdown came in the third quarter on a 38-yard pass from Holleran to Pereira.

Pereira made three of four extra points for WHS.

"The team played extremely well in all three phases of the game," said Wilmington coach Joe Cavanaugh. "Defensively, they were lights out, holding Saugus to just 34 yards of offense. The defensive line of DeLucia, Dwyer, Cushing, Borges, Panatta and Pereira and linebacker group of Watson, Lambert, Bryson, McCauley and DeProfio were flying around all night, suffocating the Saugus run game.

"Our special teams won the field position battle with the kickoff team pinning Saugus deep in their own zone, and Cam Gray doing a great job of getting us to midfield each punt return," Cavanaugh added, "Offensively, Saugus was a physical matchup for us but I thought the offensive line did a good job adjusting to the looks and physicality and opening up some nice holes."

Wilmington returns to the field on Friday night with a 7 p.m. home game against Arlington Catholic.

GOLFERS DROP TWO CLOSE ONES

The Wilmington High golf team dropped to 2-3 on the season last week, but played well in losses to Wakefield and Reading.

The Wildcats lost to Wakefield 38-34 at Thomson Country Club.

Wakefield's Pat Maloney led the Warriors with a 1-over 37.

Wilmington's Isaac Tavares remained hot with a big 6-3 win. Derek Perault and Nick Poeck also won their matches for the Wildcats.

Against Reading, the 'Cats lost 39.5 to 32.5.

Wildcat Nick Poeck picked up his varsity win shooting a scorching 1-over par 37. Nate Anderson battled Reading's Nate Vitarisi to a tie with both players shooting 2-over 38's from the one spot.

Derek Perault picked up his second win of the year for the Wildcats.

CROSS COUNTRY HAS BUSY WEEK

The Wilmington High boys and girls cross country teams raced at the Frank Kelley

Invitational on Saturday, September 20 at the Wrentham Development Center.

There were eight races (one boys and one girls for each grade) that were all 3000 meters long. The top 25 finishers in each race earned a medal and Wilmington had two runners earn medals: Cooper Hunt placed seventh in the Freshman Boys race with a time of 10:14.89 and David Dynan placed 21st in the Senior Boys race with a time of 10:11.57.

Teams with at least five finishers were eligible to be scored as a team and the Wildcats had four teams score.

Leading the way was the Senior Boys team of David Dynan (10:11.57), Jake Cronin (10:41.78), Gavin Dong (10:50.44), Evan Cummings (11:11.28) and Nathan Carriere (12:58.83)

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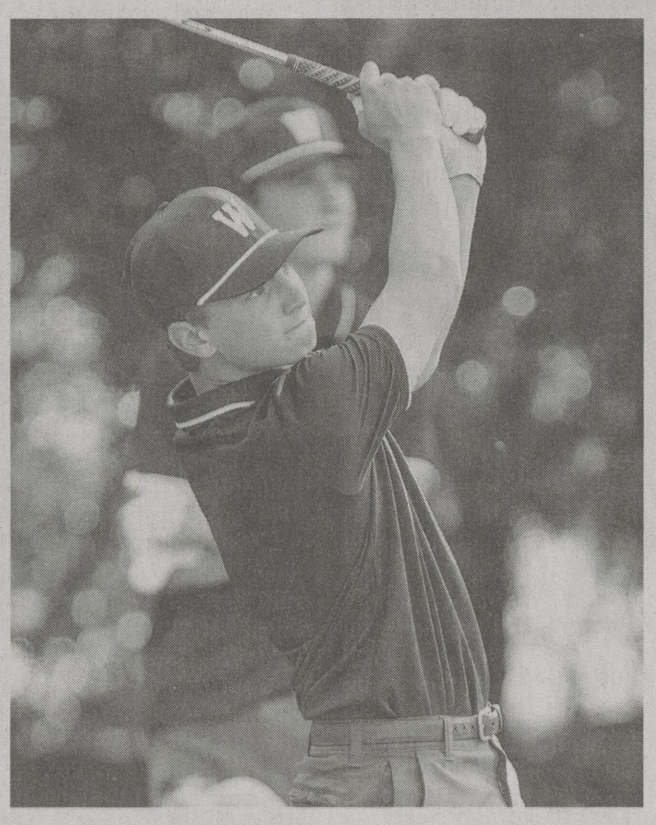


▲ Wilmington's Nathan Anderson follows his tee shot on the second hole Tuesday at Hillview Golf Course in North Reading. Wilmington edged Ipswich, 37-35.
(Credit Image: James Thomas)

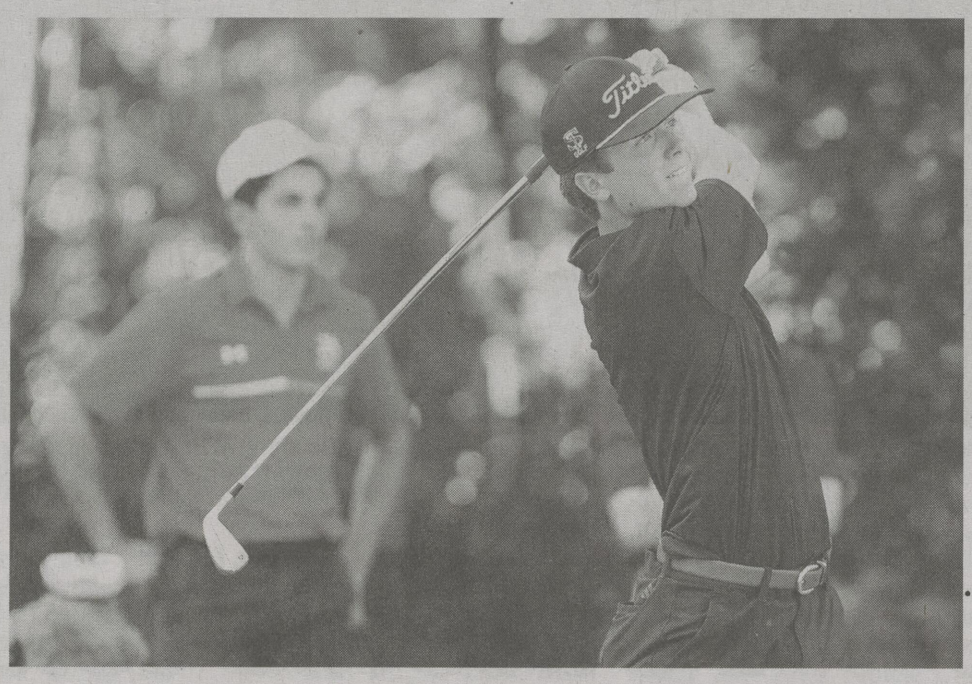
◀ Wilmington's Roman Synnott plays a bump-and-run onto the No. 1 green during Tuesday's match against Ipswich in North Reading. Wilmington edged out a 37-35 win.
(Credit Image: James Thomas)

Shawsheen Tech Roundup:

Ram football hammers Winthrop, 35-0

By DOUG HASTINGS
Sports Correspondent
sports@yourtowncrier.com

Shawsheen Tech's Max Carpenter tracks his approach on the 10th hole during Friday's golf match in Billerica. (Credit Image: James Thomas)



◀ Shawsheen Tech's Ryan Dodge follows through on a tee shot at No. 11 during Friday's golf match in Billerica. (Credit Image: James Thomas)

Another week, another big win for the Shawsheen Tech football team.

The Rams improved to 3-0 on Friday night at home with a 35-0 thumping of Winthrop.

Shawsheen scored four touchdowns in the second quarter and then added a final score in the fourth quarter.

Jake Banda had another solid day running the ball with 15 carries for 89 yards. Cam Banda had six carries for 38 yards and a touchdown and James Tildsley also ran out of the backfield, rushing five times for 37 yards.

Quarterback Adam Caruso was 6 for 10 passing for 120 yards and two touchdowns.

Caruso was intercepted three times, but still moved the ball effectively.

Dyllon Pratt had three receptions for 82 yards and a touchdown while Nathan Smith added a 29-yard touchdown catch.

The Ram defense is at it again this season.

After allowing only one touchdown or less in 12 of 13 games last season, Shawsheen's defense has given up 19 points in the first three games.

Friday night, the Rams will be in Norwood for a tough non-league contest.

GOLF

The Rams finished second in their tri-match against Burlington and Billerica High School, with Billerica taking the win.

Low medalist for Shawsheen was Max Carpenter, carding an even-par 35.

Also scoring for the Rams were Ryan Dodge with a 37, Andrew Pollys with a 39, Tyler Frediani with a 40 and Joe DaSilva with a 40.

In its previous match, Shawsheen had a 184-150 win over Essex Tech.

DaSilva led the way as low medalist with a 37 and 34 points.

Also scoring big for the Rams were Carpenter — 39 (32 points), Dodge — 39 (32 points), Jake Carr — 39 (30 points), Gavyn Welch — 40 (28 points) and Tyler Frediani — 41 (28 points).

The Rams secured another decisive victory against Nashoba Tech at Chelmsford Country Club by a score of 184-136.

The Rams were led by Carpenter, who posted a round of 32 and collected 36 points.

Additional strong performances came from Dodge — 36 (32 points), Frediani — 36 (31 points), DaSilva — 37 (28 points), Carr — 37 (28 points) and Andrew Polley — 39 (27 points).

In a win against Northeast Tech, Shawsheen scored a convincing 187-140 victory.

Carpenter led the way for the Rams, firing a 33 to earn low medalist honors with 39 points.

Strong rounds also came from Ryan Cullity — 34 (36 points), Frediani — 38 (29 points), Welch — 39 (28 points), Dodge — 39 (27 points) and Nate DiSchino — 39 (27 points).

In another match with Nashoba Tech, The Rams picked up a 165-87 victory.

Low medalists for Shawsheen were Tyler Frediani and Nate DiSchino, who both turned in excellent rounds with a 39 and 30 points.

Other standout performances included Dodge — 40 (28 points), DaSilva — 40 (28 points), Devin De Gennaro — 41 (25 points) and Tommy DaSilva — 42 (23 points).

In another win against Minuteman, the Rams won by a score of 183-172.

Low medalist for the round was Frediani with a 1-under 34 and 38 points.

Also scoring for the Rams was Carpenter with an even par 35 and 36 points, DiSchino with a 39 and 28 points, Dodge with a 40 and 28 points, Jake Ryan with a 40 and 28 points and Dany Grant with a 42 and 25 points.

The Rams started off their season with a strong win over Greater Lowell by a score of 200-131.

Low medalist for the Rams was DaSilva with a 1 under 35 and 38 points.

Also scoring for the Rams was DiSchino with a 36 and 36 points, Frediani with a 36 and 36 points, Dodge with a 38 and 32 points, Carpenter with a 39 and 30 points and Welch with a 40 and 28 points.

GIRLS SOCCER

The Shawsheen Tech girls soccer team is off to a 2-4 start.

After starting 2-0, the Rams have lost four straight against stiff competition.

"We've had a great start," said veteran coach Doug Michaud.

The Rams beat Greater Lowell to open the season, 1-0.

Senior Cera Salter broke a scoreless tie with a second-half goal for Shawsheen.

Freshman Kate Haggerty and junior Kenzie Parent split the shutout in net for the Rams.

Shawsheen captains are seniors Ava Noble midfielder and forward Maria Cafaro.

Notre Dame Academy had to forfeit its game with the Rams, moving Shawsheen to 2-0.

The Rams then fell against powerful public school programs Bedford (3-0) and Salem (4-1).

"We played well and I hope this will help the team grow," said Michaud of the matches.

The Rams then fell to Mystic Valley by a 2-1 score and to Greater Lowell on Monday, 2-0.

Shawsheen has home games this week on Wednesday and Friday against Notre Dame Academy and Groton-Dunstable.

CROSS COUNTRY

The Shawsheen Tech cross country teams are off to a fast start.

The Ram boys are 3-1 after their first four meets and the girls team has a 2-2 record.

At a recent quad meet in Wakefield against Northeast, Nashoba, Mystic Valley and Nashoba Tech, the boys defeated Mystic Valley 21-40, topped Nashoba 26-32 and lost a close meet to the Knights, 24-31.

The girls beat Nashoba and Mystic while also falling to Northeast.

The top three finishers for the boys included sophomore Joe McKenna, freshman Luke Carceo and freshman Lorenzo Rankin.

The girls were led by junior Eloise Krochune, junior Ellie Matheson and sophomore Gracie Gaffney.

VOLLEYBALL

The Shawsheen Tech volleyball team is 4-2 after its first six matches with a 4-0 record against Commonwealth Athletic Conference competition and an 0-2 mark in non-league matches.

The Rams won 3-0 against Mystic Valley in their most recent match.

Carley Monteiro had seven aces and three digs, Maura Krueger fired three aces and had 16 assists and Francesca Reardon had 11 kills and seven aces.

In an exciting 3-1 win against Greater Lawrence, Reardon led the offense with 14 kills with Paige Martin and Hope DiDonato contributing five kills each.

The defense was led by Maura Krueger and Isabella DiSalvo with 12 and 11 digs, respectively. Also playing well for the Rams were Alyssa Roy with nine digs and Carley Monteiro with eight digs and six aces.

Shawsheen won by set scores of 20-25, 25-16, 25-21, 27-25.

In a 3-1 league win against Lowell Catholic, the Rams won by scores of 25-3, 21-25, 25-7, 25-21.

Reardon contributed 12 kills, Carley Monteiro had 17 service points with 11 aces and Isabella DiSalvo provided the Rams with a strong defense.

In a 3-0 sweep of Greater Lowell to start the season, Reardon had nine kills and Maura Kreuger had 16 assists.

Non-league losses for Shawsheen came against Arlington Catholic and Concord-Carlisle.

BOYS SOCCER

After six matches, the Shawsheen Tech boys soccer team has a 2-3-1 record.

Last Friday, the Rams lost to Dracut, 1-0.

The day before, Shawsheen battled Greater Lawrence to a 2-2 tie.

Greater Lawrence took a 2-0 lead into halftime, but Shawsheen tied the score in the second half with goals by Jack Morin and Davide Vitale.

Last Tuesday, Shawsheen beat Lynn Tech, 3-1.

Gavin Rosa scored twice for the Rams and Vitale had the other tally, converting a penalty kick.

Domenic Dicenso had an assist for Shawsheen.

Shawsheen's other win came against KIPP Academy, 5-2.

Vitale led the way with three goals and Zach Dziggle had two.

Assists went to Richard Thomaz, Dziggle, Gavin Rosa and Aidan Boutot.

The Rams also lost to a solid Northeast Tech team twice by scores of 3-2 and 2-0.

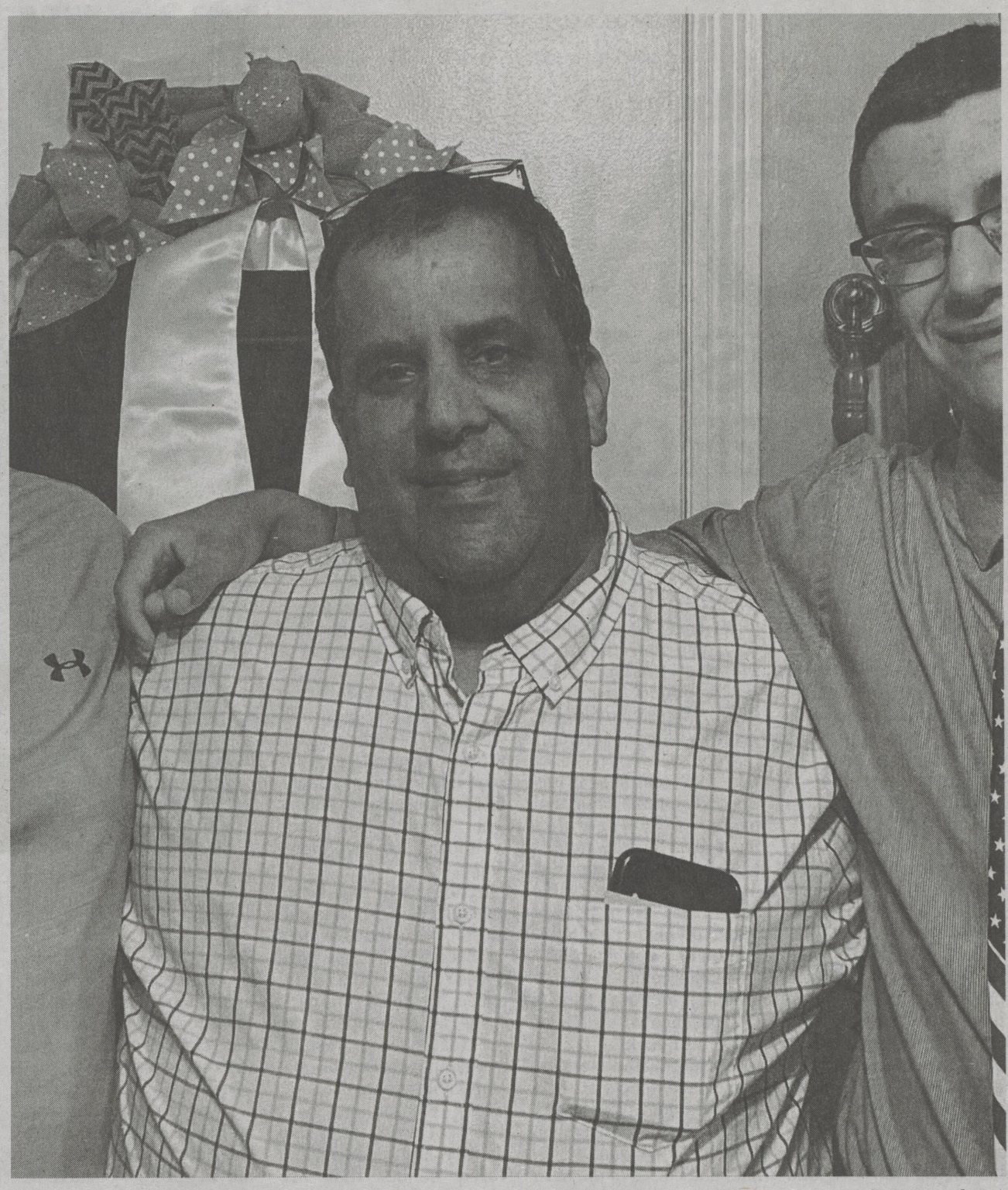
Vitale and John Galacia scored in the 3-2 loss and Moris Lopez chipped in with an assist.

▲ Shawsheen Tech's Tabby Woodward heads the ball while defended by Greater Lowell Tech's Paityn Lemay, rear, during Monday's game in Billerica. Shawsheen fell, 2-0. (Credit Image: James Thomas)

▲ Shawsheen Tech midfielder Jailyn DiNuccio (16) gains a step on Greater Lowell Tech's Isabell Sullivan during Monday's game in Billerica. Shawsheen Tech fell 2-0 at home. (Credit Image: James Thomas)

The Dougout:

Three years later, we're still missing Mike



▲ Mike Ippolito passed away three years ago. (Courtesy photo)

By DOUG HASTINGS
Sports Correspondent
sports@yourtowncrier.com

September 26 is always one of those days.

I remember being at my full-time job on the morning of Sept. 26, 2022 when I got a call from then Town Crier sports editor Jamie Pote.

The news was unbelievable.

Mike Ippolito had died, suddenly.

Mike was a long-time sports writer for the Town Crier newspapers in Tewksbury and Wilmington for Jamie. I got to know and love Mike despite being a competitor. I generally hate all forms of competition.

Mike made that impossible.

His funeral was on a Saturday and I'll never forget the amount of people that showed up. It made me so proud of my friend that he affected so many people just by writing about sports.

The turnout was awesome and the emotions of the people in attendance was touching on a variety of levels.

High school sports isn't the easiest forum to maintain the memory of someone who has died.

The athletes change every four years, coaches turn over regularly.

Freshmen in 2022 are seniors this year so it's important to keep Mike's memory alive as the final student/athletes that dealt with Mike will be graduating next spring.

His wonderful wife Lisa has worked hard to put a scholarship together in her late husband's memory for student/athletes at Wilmington High, Tewksbury High and Shawsheen Tech in Billerica. She has a committee of several awesome coaches including Jim Sullivan in Tewksbury, Joe Gore at Shawsheen Tech and Joel Mignault, a Shawsheen Tech graduate that now coaches at TMHS.

In a few short years, the Michael Ippolito Scholarship has held several preseason events for both hockey and basketball and handed out thousands of dollars to deserving recipients.

What was so special about Mike?

It's all pretty simple really.

Anyone that knew Mike says it without being asked, he was one of the nicest people most of us ever met. If he was grumpy or had bad days, we never saw any of them.

He always had a smile, a handshake and a funny story or two.

He was a wonderful family man, it oozed out of him, and his boys are a chip off the old block.

Awesome guys.

Polite.

Respectful.

Determined.

Mike's scholarships are a great way to keep his memory alive.

Through his writing, he always seemed to dig a little deeper than the rest of us.

It was funny in a way, Mike covered Shawsheen Tech sports for the Town Criers and I covered Shawsheen sports for a newspaper in Billerica.

Luckily for me, we focused on different kids. When a Billerica kid stood out and had a great game, Mike would instead look for an angle for "his towns."

It made my life a heck of a lot easier.

In the end, the athletes and coaches interviewed by Mike always had a good experience. Mike loved writing, was a sports junkie and it showed in the way he wrote, interviewed and did just about everything else.

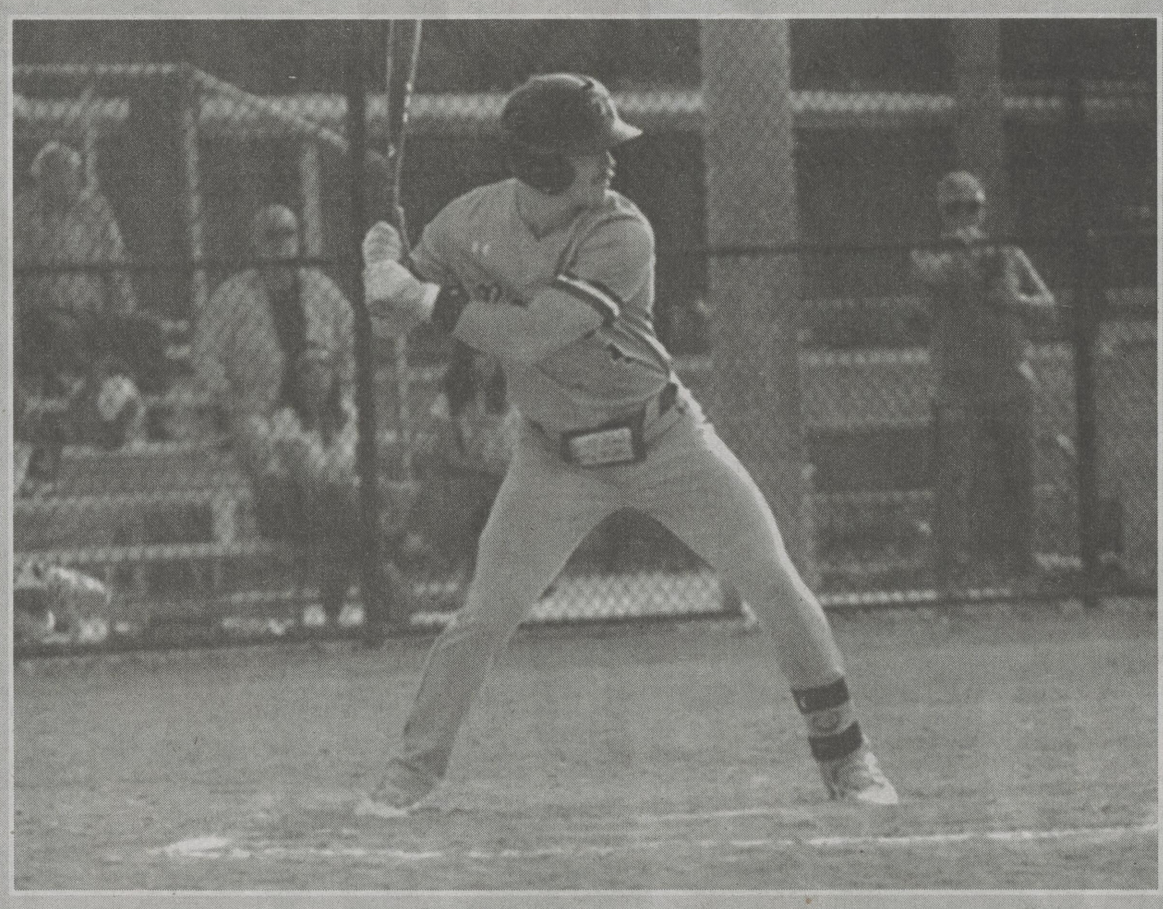
I miss him.

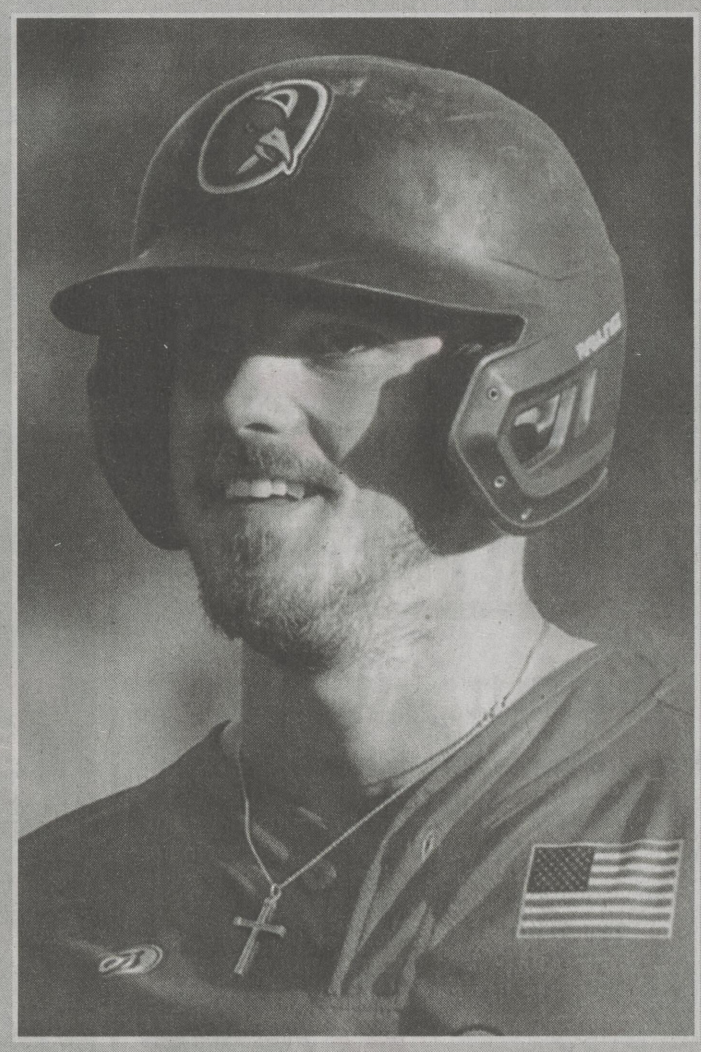
Jamie misses him.

The Rams, Wildcats and Redmen miss him.

Mike's scholarships will continue to do what Mike loved doing so much, helping student-athletes grow into successful people.

For information on Mike's scholarship foundation, feel free to email sports editor Doug Hastings. To donate, the Michael Ippolito Foundation has a Venmo account.





▲▶ Drew Metzdorf of Burlington, a former standout college baseball player, is now offering hitting lessons locally. (Courtesy photos)

Metzdorf offering baseball hitting lessons

By DOUG HASTINGS
Sports Correspondent
sports@yourtowncrier.com

Drew Metzdorf of Burlington is offering hitting lessons in the area.

Metzdorf, a standout high school and college baseball player, will be working with players ages 8 and up this season.

"I bring years of competitive baseball experience and a deep passion for the game to each session," Metzdorf said.

Metzdorf has an impressive baseball resume.

• Set multiple school records at the University of Massachusetts at Boston, including career slugging percentage and the program's first-ever cycle

• Played Div. I baseball before transferring to U-Mass-Boston

Summers:

• Played in the Futures Collegiate Baseball League and was named an All-Star

• The New England Collegiate Baseball League.

• The Cape Cod Baseball League, where he hit over .400 through more than 10 games.

• Invited to an MLB Draft Workout in May 2022.

Whether a player is just starting out or looking to take their game to the next level,

Metzdorf will tailor lessons to fit individual needs and development goals.

Session Options:

• 30-minute lesson

• 60-minute lesson

Lessons are held locally — reach out for availability and location details.

Contact: 617-599-9274

Email: *dmetzdorf@eliotchs.org*

Wilmington High cross country teams off to fast start

WILM FROM PAGE B5W

who won the Senior Boys race with 48 points.

The Freshman Girls team of Zoe Moses-Chen (13:32.99), Avery Mercaldi (14:29.10), Lilah Fisher (16:48.07), Bella Noberini (17:45.21) and Gabby Olivere (20:35.14) finished 6th as a team in their race.

The Freshman Boys team of Cooper Hunt (10:14.89), Lucas Madden (12:00.57), Tommy Roofe (12:16.75), Theo Adamek (12:18.69), Grant Jensen (12:49.81), Jacob Schoenholtz (12:56.95), Travis Brown (13:20.97), Gabe Cummings (13:25.04), Alex Murphy (13:40.58), Joe Palermo (13:52.44) and Tommy McGagh (14:16.17) placed 7th as a team in their race.

The Sophomore boys team of Michael Hao (11:06.89), Matt Lawler (11:34.70), Jason Michaud (14:19.60), Blake Jackson (16:15.88) and Liam Zollner (16:26.84) placed 13th as a team in their race.

Also running for the Wildcats were, in the Sophomore Girls race: Tess Sullivan (13:27.04), Ciara O'Shea (16:43.01) and Summer Aliperta (17:42.14). In the Junior Boys race: Cooper O'Shea (13:13.01). In the Junior Girls race: Katelyn LaPointe (13:31.91), Annette Fitzgibbons (16:30.85) and Niki Douzepis (16:43.95). And in the Senior Girls race: Cayley Israelson (13:16.25) and Bella Zaya (13:28.95).

Last week, Wilmington faced Stoneham in dual meet action.

The girls won by a score of 15-42 as the 'Cats took the first 5 spots.

The Wildcats were led by Katelyn LaPointe as she won the race in a time of 23:06. She was followed by: Bella Zaya (2nd in 23:10), Cayley Israelson (3rd in 23:17), Tess Sullivan (4th in 23:19) and Zoe Moses-Chen (5th in 23:43).

The win evened Wilmington's record at 1-1.

The WHS boys won by a score of 17-41 as they took five of the first six spots.

The Wildcats were led by Gavin Dong as he won the race in a time of 17:54. He was followed by Cooper Hunt (2nd in 18:05), David Dynan (3rd in 18:41), Matt Lawler (5th in 19:07) and Evan Cummings (6th in 19:14).

The win improved their record to 2-0 on the season.

GIRLS SOCCER

In recent action, the Wilmington High girls soccer team lost to Lexington and tied Melrose.

In a 4-0 loss to the talented Minutemen, LHS took a 1-0 lead into halftime before pulling away in the second half.

In a 0-0 tie with Melrose, the game had a playoff atmosphere with both teams playing very good defense. Although scoring opportunities were created by both teams, such were not capitalized.

K

Lifestyle

DONUT MISS THIS UNDERGROUND TOUR OF BOSTON

▲ Kane's Donuts has been a New England tradition since 1955. Their new Boston location is your first stop on the Boston Underground Donut Tour.
(Heather Burns photo)

By HEATHER BURNS
News Correspondent

Anyone who lives in New England, has visited New England, or has remotely heard of New England, knows that Boston (and the surrounding areas) runs on Dunkin'.

Founded in Quincy in 1950, Dunkin' Donuts has long been a favorite of New Englanders over other coffee shop brands.

However, this love of Dunkin' is not because Massachusetts residents are known to be the top consumers of coffee or donuts (they don't even crack the top ten list for either category), but it is more likely because Dunkin' represents the unpretentious, blue-collar, New England worker and their need to fuel their work day for the past 75 years.

In recent years, Dunkin' Donuts has dropped the "donut" part of their name, as the company recognized their sales were driven more by coffee sales than by donut sales.

With the drop of the name, many feel there was also a drop in the quality of donuts produced by Dunkin'.

Once known for having fresh baked donuts, Dunkin' no longer bakes donuts onsite, choosing instead to focus on other products on their menu.

This leaves the question as to where New Englander's are to fill the donut hole that is now left in their morning diet.

For those looking for a traditional Boston donut experience, or looking to try some new flavors in the New England donut world, a donut tour of the City of Boston may be just what you are looking for.

Boston's Underground Donut Tour features a fun-filled, two-mile walk that passes Boston's waterfront area as well as many historical landmarks, making for an enjoyable stroll that is a perfect blend of history, culture, and delicious donuts.

The tour begins at the regionally famous Kane's Donuts, located on Oliver Street in Boston.

Kane's started serving homemade donuts at their original Saugus location in 1955, a mom and pop shop that provided quality donuts and coffee to the hard working, north of Boston community.

Over the years, Kane's built a reputation as a morning favorite treat for New Englanders who were willing to make the trip to Saugus to enjoy that powdery-sweet breakfast baked-good.

Purchased by the Delio family in the 1980's, the new owners elevated and expanded the Kane's Donut name, adding a new Boston location, which has now become a staple in Boston's Financial District.

Your tour stop at Kane's will not disappoint, offering a great selection of sweetness to start your donut tour.

Keeping with the classic original donut recipe, Kane's offers traditional donut flavors as well as a new line of candy inspired flavors and gluten free choices.

After getting your fill of Kane's donuts, the tour will move to the Boston Public Market, a year round, indoor marketplace filled with local vendors who promote food made with locally sourced ingredients.

Visitors will be introduced to Boston's agricultural history and how Massachusetts locally produced foods have influenced Boston's culinary scene while sampling donut treats such as fresh cider donuts made with regionally grown apples.

Tour participants will also experience other distinctive and seasonal flavored donuts that are unique to Massachusetts.

The third and final stop on this donut tour is one of Boston's most iconic Italian bakeries, Bova's, located in the North End.

Although Bova's is typically known for its authentic Italian pastries and baked foods, it is also famous for its renowned Boston classic, the Boston Cream Donut.

Diehard New Englanders and tourists alike wait in lines that go out the tiny shop and around the corner in order to partake in the indulgent donut that pays homage to the classic Boston Cream Pie.

In between taking bites of your Bova Boston Cream donut, you may find yourself stocking up on other culinary treasures offered at Bova's, like authentic Italian pizza for lunch, a loaf of fresh bread to go with dinner, or a large selection of Italian pastries and desserts to enjoy later that night.

Be advised the Boston Underground Donut Tour is not for the timid eater, so be sure to bring your appetite and dress accordingly with comfortable clothes and shoes.

For the weight conscious, you can leave at least some of your sugar-coated guilt behind, as you will be doing quite a bit of walking during this two hour tour.

Tours are offered daily, and include a guided walk throughout many scenic parts of the city with plenty of stories and history, as well as a large selection of donuts to sample at each location.

For information on ticket prices, tour availability and schedules, or to book a tour, visit *www.undergrounddonuttour.com*.

▲ Lines form out the door at Bova's Bakery in the North End for their famous Boston Cream Donut.
(Heather Burns photo)

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LEGAL NOTICES ARCHIVE

All published legal notices are posted to the Massachusetts Public Notices website. To search the archive of previously published legal notices go to:
www.homenewshere.com OR masspublicnotices.org/Search.aspx

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF TEWKSBURY
CONSERVATION COMMISSION

PUBLIC HEARING

REQUEST FOR DETERMINATION OF APPLICABILITY (RDA)

Notice is hereby given that the Tewksbury Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on **October 8, 2025, at 6:30 P.M., located at Tewksbury Town Hall, 1009 Main Street,** for a RDA application filed by Amy Burns for installation of a 7x13' inground pool. within a wetland buffer zone .

The property subject to this application is located at **40 CARL DONALD DR TEWKSBURY, MA, ASSESSOR'S MAP 10-102.**

The application may be examined on the Conservation Commission webpage of the Town of Tewksbury's website at www.tewksbury-ma.gov. Should other accommodations be necessary to view the application, please call the Community Development Office at 978-640-4370. Legal Notice can also be viewed on www.masspublicnotices.org

Daniel Ronan
Chair

245945 9/25/25

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF TEWKSBURY
BOARD OF APPEALS

Notice is hereby given that the Tewksbury Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing on **September 25, 2025, at 6:30 P.M.**, in the Tewksbury Town Hall, 1009 Main Street, Tewksbury, MA 01876, for an application filed by **Jacqueline Millerick** for a Special Permit under Section 8.1.1.C, of theTewksbury Zoning Bylaw, to construct a 2nd story family suite addition with a 10'x11' mudroom as shown on plans filed with the Board.

Said property is located at **905 SOUTH ST** , Assessor's Map 98 , Lot 201 zoned Residence 40 (R40) .

The application may be examined on the Zoning Board of Appeals webpage of the Town of Tewksbury's website at www.tewksbury-ma.gov. Should other accommodations be necessary to view the application, please call the Community Development Office at 978-640-4370. Legal Notice can also be viewed on www.masspublicnotices.org

Nancy Rego, Chair

250959 9/18,25/25

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF TEWKSBURY
CONSERVATION COMMISSION

PUBLIC HEARING

REQUEST FOR DETERMINATION OF APPLICABILITY (RDA)

Notice is hereby given that the Tewksbury Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on **October 8, 2025, at 6:30 P.M.,** located at Tewksbury Town Hall, 1009 Main Street, for a RDA applicationfiled by Linda Walton for driveway expansion within wetland buffer zone.

The property subject to this application is located at **91 EMILY RD TEWKSBURY, MA, ASSESSOR'S MAP 110-5.**

The application may be examined on the Conservation Commission webpage of the Town of Tewksbury's website at www.tewksbury-ma.gov. Should other accommodations be necessary to view the application, please call the Community Development Office at 978-640-4370. Legal Notice can also be viewed on www.masspublicnotices.org

Daniel Ronan
Chair

250996 9/25/25

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to:K & M Concrete of 668 Main St Unit 286 in Wilmington MA who is the last registered owner of a

2011 GMC 3500
Vin# 1GD322cG4BF199822

that this vehicle will be sold at auction on or about October 17, 2025 at A&S Towing, 222 Andover Street, Wilmington MA. The vehicle will be auctioned to recover towing and storage charges that are past due.

250990 9/25, 10/2,2/25

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF WILMINGTON
BOARD OF APPEALS

A public hearing will be held at the Town Hall, 121 Glen Road, Room 9 on **Wednesday, October 8th, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.** on the following applications:

CASE # 11-25
21 WESTDALE AVE
MAP 73 PARCEL 29

APPLICANT:
STEVEN BALSAVICH

SPECIAL PERMIT PURSUANT TO 6.1.6.4 TO BUILD AN ADDITION CONSISTING OF A NEW KITCHEN, MASTER BEDROOM, 2 BATHROOMS AND AN OFFICE. R20 ZONE WILL BE 10-4 FEET FROM THE LOT LINE.

250805 9/25, 10/2/25

PUBLIC NOTICE

SECTION 106 PUBLIC NOTICE

T-Mobile Northeast, LLC proposes to collocate antennas within a 122-foot-tall Building located at 220 Middlesex Ave, Wilmington, Middlesex County, MA 01887. Interested parties with comments regarding potential effects on Historic Properties may contact T-Mobile c/o Julia Klima at Dynamic Environmental Associates, Inc., 3850 Lake Street, Suite C, Macon, GA 31204, 877-968-4787, Sec106@DynamicEnvironmental.com within 30 days from the date of this publication.Re: 22509025

250995 9/25/25

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF WILMINGTON
BOARD OF APPEALS

A public hearing will be held at the Town Hall, 121, Room 9, Glen Road on **Wednesday, OCTOBER 8TH 2025 at 7:00 p.m.** on the following applications:

CASE # 12-25
9 KELLEY ROAD
MAP 51 PARCEL 105

APPLICANT: RONALD BRIERE

SPECIAL PERMIT PURSUANT TO 6.1.6.4 TO REMOVE OLD GARAGE BUILT IN THE 50'S AND BUILD A NEW GARAGE LESS NON-CONFORMING TO THE PROPERTY

250950 9/25, 10/2/25

Please Recycle

Public Notices

Every day throughout the United States newspapers publish thousands of public notices about events, conditions or actions that affect countless individuals, families, neighborhoods and businesses. Public notices cover many topics including guardianships, conservatorships and protective orders, probating wills, business matters, liquor licensing, public auctions and sales, estates, zoning, public meetings, bids to sell goods and services to the government, auctions to dispose of surplus government equipment, local government finances and state and local elections. The public notice is a fundamental component of our system of representative democracy, which depends upon the participation of educated, responsible citizens.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
ENERGY FACILITIES SITING BOARD

NOTICE OF ADJUDICATION AND PUBLIC COMMENT HEARING

https://www.mass.gov/info-details/tewksbury-battery-project

EFSB 25-08 – Hillman Energy Center, LLC
(Tewksbury Battery Energy Storage System Project)

Project Summary and Public Comment Hearing Overview

Hillman Energy Center, LLC ("Company"), a subsidiary of East Point Energy and Equinor, has asked the Energy Facilities Siting Board ("Siting Board") to grant individual and comprehensive zoning exemptions from the Town of Tewksbury Zoning Bylaw ("Zoning Bylaws") for the construction of (a) a 125 megawatt ("MW")/500 megawatt hour ("MWh") Battery Energy Storage System ("BESS") and related electrical infrastructure, including a new electric substation, at 73-75 Hillman Street in Tewksbury, Massachusetts; and (b) an approximately 1,200-foot electric transmission interconnection line (the "Proposed Transmission Interconnection") (together, the "Project," and jointly, the "Project Site"). A description and map of the Project Site is provided below.

The Siting Board will conduct a hybrid public comment hearing, with in-person and remote participation options:

Thursday, October 9, 2025, 6:30 p.m.
Tewksbury Memorial High School Auditorium
320 Pleasant Street
Tewksbury, MA 01876

Remote attendees: join by using this link – https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88408639744 from a computer, tablet, or smart device. For audio-only participation, attendees can dial-in at (646) 558-8656 (not a toll-free number) and then enter the **Webinar ID: 884-0863-9744**

To provide oral comments during the hearing (in person, on Zoom, or by telephone), notify Yonathan Mengesha at **Yonathan.Mengesha@mass.gov** or (617) 305-3544. Please provide your name, email address, mailing address, and docket number ("EFSB 25-08") by Wednesday, October 8, 2025. Pre-registered commenters will speak first and others will speak afterwards.

The Siting Board also invites written comments on the Project. Written comments will be most useful to the Siting Board if submitted by **Friday, October 24, 2025**. Persons or groups who wish to be involved in the Siting Board proceeding (beyond providing comments at the public comment hearing or in writing) may seek to intervene as a party or to participate as a limited participant. A petition to intervene or participate must be filed no later than **Friday, October 24, 2025** and must follow the instructions below.

Important Dates

Public Comment Hearing	**Thursday, October 9, 2025**
Written Public Comment Deadline	**Friday, October 24, 2025**
Deadline to file for intervention or limited participant status	**Friday, October 24, 2025**

Public Review of the Company's Petitions

A detailed description of the Project, links to the Company's petition, attachments, and analyses, and periodic updates are electronically available on the Siting Board's webpage for the Project at the URL link and QR code at the top of the first page of this notice. In addition, electronic copies of the petitions and attachments have been provided to the Town of Tewksbury. The Company maintains a webpage for the Project at https://www.hillmanenergycenter.com.

Hard copies of the Company's petition and attachments are available for public inspection at the following locations:

Boston
- Energy Facilities Siting Board, One South Station, 3rd floor, Boston, MA 02110

Tewksbury
1. Town Clerk, Town of Tewksbury, 1009 Main Street, Tewksbury, MA 01876
2. Tewksbury Public Library, 300 Chandler St, Tewksbury, MA 01876

In addition, the Company's petitions, including all attachments, are electronically available via the Siting Board's website at: https://eeaonline.eea.state.ma.us/dpu/fileroom/#/dockets/docket/12515.

Public Comment Hearing

At the public comment hearing, the Company will present an overview of the Project. Public officials and members of the public will have an opportunity to ask questions and comment about the Project. The public comment hearing will be transcribed by a court reporter. After the hearing, a recording will be posted to the Siting Board's YouTube channel at https://www.youtube.com/@MaDPU_hearing.

The public comment hearing marks the beginning of a formal, state-level decision-making process focused on whether to approve the Project. Pursuant to G.L. c. 40A, § 3, the Siting Board will determine whether to exempt the Project from zoning requirements of the Town of Tewksbury, based on whether the present or proposed use of the land or structures is reasonably necessary for the convenience or welfare of the public.

I. INTERVENTION AND PARTICIPATION

Persons or groups who wish to participate in the Siting Board proceeding, beyond providing comments at the public comment hearing or submitting written comments, may seek to intervene as a party or to participate as a limited participant.

"Intervenor" or "Party" Status: An **intervenor** can participate fully in the evidentiary phase of the proceeding, including participating in discovery (information gathering), participating in evidentiary hearings, filing a brief, presenting comments to the Siting Board on the Tentative Decision, and appealing the Final Decision.

"Limited Participant" Status: A **limited participant** receives documents during the proceeding and may file a brief and present comments regarding the Tentative Decision to the Siting Board.

A petition to intervene must demonstrate that the petitioner may be substantially and specifically affected by this proceeding. See below for filing instructions. For additional information on the Siting Board procedural rules, please see the following link: https://www.mass.gov/how-to/file-a-petition-to-intervene-in-an-efsb-or-dpu-siting-case.

Instructions for Filing Written Comments and Requesting to Participate in the Proceeding

Written comments on the Project, or a petition to intervene or participate as a limited participant in this proceeding, must be sent to the following three email addresses: dpu.efiling@mass.gov, donna.sharkey@mass.gov, akaplan@pierceatwood.com. The filing deadline is **Friday, October 24, 2025**. The text of the e-mail must specify: (1) the docket number of the proceeding ("EFSB 25-08"); (2) the name of the person or entity submitting the filing; and (3) a brief description of the document. The email should also include the name, title, and telephone number of a person to contact in the event of questions about the filing.

The request for intervention must state and explain the way or ways in which the requester may be specifically and substantially affected by the Project; a limited participant request must describe the reason for the petitioner's interest and purpose of participation. For more information on the Siting Board's procedural rules, please see the following link: https://www.mass.gov/doc/980-cmr-105/download.

Accommodation Requests and Language Services Requests

Reasonable accommodations for people with disabilities (e.g., Braille, large print, electronic files, audio format) are available upon request. To request an accommodation, please contact:

Melixza Esenyie
Non-Discrimination Coordinator and Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs
Human Resources, 9th Floor
100 Cambridge Street, Boston, MA 02114
eeadiversity@mass.gov, 617-626-1282

In your communication, state the accommodations you need and why you need them. Provide contact information in case the Coordinator needs more information. Provide your request as soon as possible. The Coordinator will consider but may not be able to fulfill late requests.

Language interpretation services are also available upon request to Yonathan Mengesha at (617) 305-3544 or **Yonathan.Mengesha@mass.gov**. Include in your request the language required and your contact information. To assist us in accommodating your request, please submit it as soon as possible.

Non-Discrimination Notice

The Siting Board does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, disability, age, sex, income, ethnicity, class, disability, religious creed or belief, gender identity, sexual orientation, genetic information, English language proficiency, or ancestry in administration of its programs or activities. See the Siting Board's Non-Discrimination Notice at: https://www.mass.gov/info-details/efsb-non-discrimination-notice-and-grievance-procedure.

If you have any questions about this notice or any of the Siting Board's non-discrimination programs, policies, or procedures, or believe the Siting Board has discriminated against you, you may contact Melixza Esenyie (see above for contact information) for more information.

Contact

For further information about intervention or participation in the proceeding, please contact the Presiding Officer at the email address or telephone number below:

Donna Sharkey, Presiding Officer
Energy Facilities Siting Board
One South Station
Boston, MA 02110
Donna.sharkey@mass.gov
(617) 305-3625

For periodic updates on the Siting Board's proceeding, please visit the Siting Board's webpage for this proceeding via the URL link or QR code at the top of the first page of this notice.

Project Description

Hillman Energy Center, LLC proposes to construct a BESS project on two parcels of land, i.e., Parcel 35-6-MAIN and Parcel 35-7, at 73 and 75 Hillman Street in Tewksbury (the "BESS site") The site occupied by the two parcels, is bounded by Hillman Street to the south, high voltage powerlines to the west, railroad tracks to the north, and Clinton Street to the east. Generally, land uses surrounding the BESS site include existing electric transmission corridors and related infrastructure, extensive wetland areas to the north and west, and commercial/industrial development to the east and south. The Project proposes installation of 169 BESS modules – consisting of lithium-ion batteries housed in above-ground storage cabinets and transformers on concrete slabs – on approximately 4.3 acres of land.

The Proposed Transmission Interconnection line would extend approximately 1,200 feet and traverse four separate tax parcels: Parcel ID 35-4, Parcel ID 35-5, and Parcel ID 49-34, all owned by National Grid; and Parcel ID 11-1, owned by the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority ("MBTA"). Per the Town of Tewksbury's zoning map, Parcel ID 11-1, Parcel ID 35-4, and Parcel ID 35-5 are zoned Industrial, and Parcel ID 49-34 is zoned Park District. Additionally, Parcel ID 11-1 is situated in an existing railroad corridor, and Parcel ID 35-5 and Parcel ID 49-34 contain the existing National Grid Substation 22A and wetland areas. In total, approximately 3.8 acres is developed with an existing landscaping business and a truck repair shop. The remaining 0.25 acres of this parcel consists of an isolated vegetated wetland. The 75 Hillman Street Parcel is approximately 0.29 acres in size, contains equipment storage and other industrial uses, and is entirely developed.

The Project Site is located within a Zone II Wellhead Protection Area, as mapped by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection. The Company contends that no part of the Project Site is mapped or identified as Outstanding Resource Waters, and that the Project Site does not contain any mapped floodplains, estimated habitat for state-listed rare species, certified vernal pools, areas identified as Areas of Critical Environmental Concern, surface water supply protection areas, or protected open space.

Top reasons why most Americans avoid getting their check-ups

(BPT) - Did you know 90% of Americans put off check-ups or recommended screenings that could help identify and treat serious illness early? Aflac's 2025 Wellness Matters Survey reveals what's making Americans hesitate to get wellness exams - and who avoids them most.

Surprisingly, among Americans under 60, women were most likely to admit skipping their common recommended screenings: Gen Z women (68% versus 55% of Gen Z men); millennial women (63% versus 61% millennial men) and Gen X women (63% versus 54% Gen X men).

If you or a loved one are delaying taking care of your health, you're not alone - but your inaction could result in increased costs, worse health outcomes, or even a shorter lifespan. The good news is, you can take steps today to help safeguard your health.

Barriers to care

The Wellness Matters Survey found an alarming 94% of Americans face barriers to getting recommended screenings. Across all generations, Americans delay health care because going to the doctor isn't always easy - logistically or emotionally. Many people avoid appointments for practical reasons including cost, time and transportation, but emotional factors like fear of bad news or embarrassment also create obstacles:

* Nearly half of Americans (48%) face logistical barriers including conflicts with work hours and challenges taking time off for appointments.

* Nearly 40% have canceled or not scheduled a doctor's appointment because the wait time was too long.

* Americans have avoided these common screenings:* pap smear (33%)

* prostate exam (32%)

* colonoscopy (32%)

* mammogram (31%)

* blood test (31%)

* full-body skin cancer exam (27%)

* STD screening (22%)

Notably, millennials are most likely to avoid these overall screenings (62%), closely followed by Gen Z (61%):

* Gen Z reports experiencing feelings of personal embarrassment and distrust or dislike of doctors (32%).

* Embarrassment and fear of bad news prevents nearly 1 in 4 young women, particularly Gen Z, from getting on-time screenings.

Advantages of check-ups and screenings

Annual checkups with a primary care physician offer several benefits. They give your provider a baseline so changes can help identify health issues early, when they're much more treatable. Wellness exams also offer opportunities to ask questions and alleviate concerns, which can be reassuring. Information from trained, experienced health care providers is more reliable and accurate than what you may find online about your concerns.

Waiting until you have a health crisis, then relying on urgent care or the emergency room, is also more costly than preventive care and timely management of health conditions. Many Americans (41%) - including Gen Z (51%) and millennials (54%) - primarily use urgent care or the emergency room for medical needs. Men (46%), African Americans (47%), Asian Americans (45%) and Hispanics (44%) are most likely to seek medical attention from urgent care or the emergency room.

Timely health screenings can ensure signs of illness - including cancer - are detected as early as possible, before you need to seek urgent care. Recent medical advances offer more effective treatments for a variety of cancers and other diseases, but they're more successful when started as soon as possible. Finding and treating cancer and other diseases early is your best bet for improved health outcomes, and could actually save your life.

Tips to manage health screenings

If you're unsure what screenings you need, or haven't seen a doctor in years, contact your health insurer to learn what doctors or clinics near you are covered by your plan, and what screenings are covered.

* Choose a primary care physician. Through your insurance network, find a practitioner located near you.

* Learn about screenings recommended for your age, gender and family health history. Start at CDC.gov for basic information.

* Keep a regular schedule by planning check-ups around your birthday, so you don't forget.

* Maximize appointments by writing down questions you have before going.

* Plan ahead by adding recommended screening timelines to your calendar.

You can also encourage friends and loved ones to take care of their health by offering gentle reminders, expressing your concern for their well-being. In the Wellness Matters Survey, 73% said they feel the positive benefits of a thoughtful nudge about getting preventive care, with 83% of African Americans, 79% of Hispanics, 78% of Gen Z and 77% of millennials expressing thankfulness or a sense of relief that a friend or loved one urged them to go to the doctor.

Don't wait for a health scare

Overall, the survey showed Americans know they should take a moment to schedule preventive care screenings or wellness visits, even though they delay it. For 65% of Americans, experiencing a health scare is what made them realize they need to be more proactive about their health. Unfortunately, many of those who believe they'll be diagnosed with cancer are more likely to delay screenings (62% versus 42%).

Coverage matters

Understandably, employees consider benefits packages to be vital for their physical, financial and mental well-being during a time of increased worry about health care costs. In fact, the 2024-2025 Aflac WorkForces Report found a growing number of employees would consider leaving their jobs for better benefits, even with a pay cut. Supplemental insurance benefits are an important part of a comprehensive benefits package, with most employees seeing an increasing need for supplemental insurance to help mitigate fear of unexpected medical events, helping to anchor financial stability and increase peace of mind.

You can be more proactive about your health. Early detection and treatment are key, so start by making an appointment today. Visit Aflac.com/WellnessMatters (Spanish: Aflac.com/es/Wellness-Matters) to learn more.

Aflac. "The 2025 Wellness Matters Survey."

About the study: The 2025 Wellness Matters Survey was conducted among a nationally representative sample of 2,000 employed U.S. adults ages 18-65 in April 2025 by Kantar Profiles on behalf of Aflac.

The results from the 2025 Wellness Matters Survey are intended for informational purposes only. Aflac's family of insurers American Family Life Assurance Company of Columbus and/or American Family Life Assurance Company of New York, and/or Continental American Insurance Company (CAIC) and/or Continental American Life Insurance Company.

Why your home's water quality matters

(BPT) - Do you think about your home's water quality? From daily showers to brewing your morning cup of coffee, you use water for so many everyday tasks, including ones that can impact your well-being. That's why it's important to learn more about the water quality in your area.

What affects water quality

Tap water goes on quite the journey before it reaches your home. Water from natural sources like lakes, rivers and groundwater flows to municipal water treatment facilities where it is cleaned and purified. While these treatments make water safe to drink, some minerals and chemicals can impact the taste of your water and affect your skin and hair.

After it's treated, the water flows to storage tanks and then pipes before it enters your home. During its travel, the water can pick up sediments and other contaminants that impact your water quality. Luckily, there are various technologies you can easily install in your home to filter the water you use every day.

Better, tastier drinking water

Does your tap water have a chlorinated or metallic taste? This is a common problem with a relatively simple solution. Installing an under-sink water filtration system can reduce the contaminants responsible for this taste, as well as other chemicals and sediments that negatively impact water quality.

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Are you ready to improve your water quality?

Improving your home's water quality doesn't have to be complicated. The right products can instantly improve your water so you can drink, cook and shower with confidence. To learn more about water quality and solutions, visit Delta Faucet's Water Quality Resource.

Mooney (From page A6)

family situations. It is important that you receive personal advice related to your specific situation and estate planning needs from qualified professionals.

About the author: Attorney Susan M. Mooney, is a partner in the law firm of Dalton & Finegold, LLP. She has been a practicing attorney for thirty-seven (37) years. She received her law degree, summa cum laude, from New England Law/Boston in 1987 and undergraduate degree from the University of Massachusetts. She is admitted to practice in Massachusetts State and Federal Courts and the Supreme Court of the United States.

Nothing contained in this article is intended as legal advice specific to your personal situation. Please consult an estate planning or elder law attorney of your choice to review your personal planning and circumstances.

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Select Board votes to hold one December meeting

SELECT FROM PAGE 1

reuse committee, and in that case he could also amend their charge.

The other memo to the board that night informed them of changes to the Verizon Fios TV Rate Card. Slagle suggested that residents look out for a copy in the mail explaining that their rates have gone up.

Slagle proposed the December meeting schedule with only one meeting, to be thoughtful about various holidays and schedules during this season. The board voted in favor of holding only one meeting that month, on Dec. 8.

They also voted in favor of lighting the town common pink in October for breast cancer awareness at the request of Gigi Shenloogian.

They voted to allow the Wildwood PAC to use Rotary Park on Oct. 25 at 1 p.m. and to allow Friends of Field Hockey Boosters to hold a fundraising car wash at the municipal parking lot on Aug. 23, 2026.

In announcements, West shared that the annual report and the new town calendar had both come out. Caira wished Anne Butters a happy 108th birthday. West also wished Slagle a happy birthday.

Slagle mentioned in announcements that the town had held the special Town Meeting and ballot question vote ahead of that night's meeting, and both votes passed which meant that the new elementary school would move forward in the MSBA process.

West highlighted Fall Fest coming up on Sept. 27.

Under new business, Slagle brought up a request to authorize the chair to sign a compliant certificate for a deed from Wilmington Whispering Pines LLC. He said that this was a necessary step to keep the affordable unit there affordable. The board voted to do so.

The Salute to Service that night honored US Air Force Veteran Paul J. Cardello. West shared that Cardello served in the Vietnam War and had founded and run the nonprofit organization iPods for Wounded Veterans for many years. He also named his medals including the national defense medal and the air force good conduct medal and thanked Cardello for his service.

The board's next meeting is scheduled for Oct. 14h at 7 p.m.

Some members want to see old Buzzell School demolished

REUSE FROM PAGE 1

$120,000. The committee was split on the recommendation, with four in favor of demolition and four in favor of reuse. Therefore, they recommended that the Select Board make the final determination.

Lilia Maselli asked if renovation for the reuse (not renovations to bring the building up to code) would be on the town's dollar. Kelley replied that this would be left up to the board to decide.

Maselli, therefore, stated her opinion that she wanted to see the building demolished.

"I don't believe in putting in more money than the building's worth," she continued.

She proposed that the Buzzell family be recognized by naming a room after them in another building.

Kevin Caira thanked the Building Reuse Committee members for the work they'd done in this assessment. He said he wouldn't want the town to pay for renovations related to the reuse specifically. He recognized that there were several groups that could use the building for meeting space.

Several other committee members spoke to provide additional context. Paul Melaroni suggested that the new town hall had plenty of parking, with over 345 parking spaces and up to 288 in regular use. He also proposed that the board wait to decide on the Buzzell building until after the new town hall/school administration building is occupied.

DPW Director Jamie Magaldi added that the parking lot at the Buzzell School may be helpful during snowstorms, and the new building could benefit from additional parking. He also explained that the renovation costs of just updating the HVAC, electric systems, and fire suppression system cost more than the value of the building.

Kelley suggested that the $1.2 million could be used for other capital improvements instead of here on this building.

West wondered if there may be a way to lower the cost of repair and bringing the building up to code such as volunteers. Kelley replied that they typically don't allow volunteers to do this type of work for liability reasons, and they've had trouble with Shawsheen Tech student work in the past.

Kelley recalled that the new town hall/school administration building project may have funds to be put toward the demolition of the old building. Melaroni commented that this was out of the scope of the project. However, Kelley and Slagle agreed that it was within the scope of the project and the vote of residents authorizing the project.

West later explained that in his discretion as chair, he hadn't put a vote on the agenda that night, as he wanted to allow discussion and consider a walkthrough of the building and then have a vote at the next meeting.

Maselli said that she was ready to vote that night and she didn't need a walkthrough of the building.

Gary DePalma shared his agreement with Maselli's statement.

Jacob Gearwar also said that he would be ready to vote on the future of the building that night.

Caira suggested that the agenda should include a vote if the board is going to vote, so he preferred to wait until the next meeting.

Town Manager Eric Slagle confirmed that the board could vote that night and they wouldn't be violating open meeting law, as the agenda says "votes may be taken" under their presentations.

West was inclined to hold off on the vote. He asked if anyone in the audience had attended the meeting to speak on this item during public comment. However, Maselli chimed in to suggest that it would be inappropriate to allow public comment at that time, and West did not invite anyone to the microphone.

DePalma made a motion to take the vote up that night. The vote to demolish the Buzzell School passed with three votes in favor from Maselli, Gearwar, and DePalma; one vote against from West; and one abstention from Caira.

Bonnie Smith later spoke during public comment and said she had prepared a presentation urging them to preserve the Buzzell School on behalf of the Historical Commission.

"I respectfully disagree with the decision not to let me speak," she said.

Lead to death of Wilmington police therapy dog

Tewksbury police investigating two-car crash

TEWKSBURY — Police Chief Ryan Columbus reports that the Tewksbury Police Department responded Tuesday morning to a crash on Whipple Road that resulted in the death of a Wilmington Police Department therapy dog.

On Tuesday, Sept. 23, at approximately 8 a.m., Tewksbury police responded to Whipple Road near Wells Drive for a report of a two-vehicle crash.

Officers arrived to discover a two-vehicle crash involving a Toyota Camry and a Mazda 3. Both drivers were transported to local hospitals by ambulance, with injuries that did not immediately appear to be life-threatening. A Wilmington Police therapy dog, Zena, was seriously injured in the crash.

Zena was transported by ambulance to the Bulger Animal Hospital in Lawrence under provisions of Nero's Law, which permits police dogs to be transported by ambulance when necessary.

A preliminary investigation determined that the Mazda 3, driven by a 26-year-old Westminster woman, crossed over the double yellow center line and struck the Toyota Camry head-on. The Camry was driven by a Wilmington Police Department employee and the handler of the therapy dog, Zena.

ZENA

The Mazda driver will be summonsed for negligent operation of a motor vehicle and a marked lanes violation. Her name cannot be released by law at this time, pending the issuance of a criminal complaint.

An investigation into the crash remains ongoing.

In a statement, the Wilmington Police Department said, "It is with deep sorrow and regret that Wilmington police announce the death of the department's therapy dog, Zena, whose calming and gentle presence eased the minds and lightened the hearts of countless residents of all ages."

Zena joined Wilmington police in January of 2022 at just eight weeks old, and was assigned to Wilmington Police Department Clinician Samantha Cavanaugh as a therapy/comfort dog. Zena brought smiles to all who met her whether it be a visit to a community group, a school, the senior center, or walking around the annual Fun On The Fourth festival.

"We are heartbroken today because Zena was a beloved member of our Wilmington police family, and a beloved member of our community," said Police Chief Brian Pupa. "For three years, Zena put residents and families at ease even during the toughest of times, and her work will not be forgotten. She served her community well."

In addition to being frequent visitors to schools and community events, Cavanaugh and Zena made up the Wilmington Police Health & Recovery Unit, which builds relationships with individuals and helps residents with behavioral health, mental health, substance use and development health issues. Their work has impacted Wilmington residents and families on a daily a basis.

Zena was known throughout the community and even had her own Instagram page.

Wilmington police would like to thank the Tewksbury police department for their assistance, and the Tewksbury Fire Department for transporting Zena to a hospital under Nero's Law. Wilmington police would also like to thank the staff of Bulger Animal Hospital for their efforts and for treating Zena with dignity.

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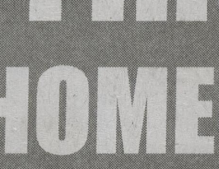

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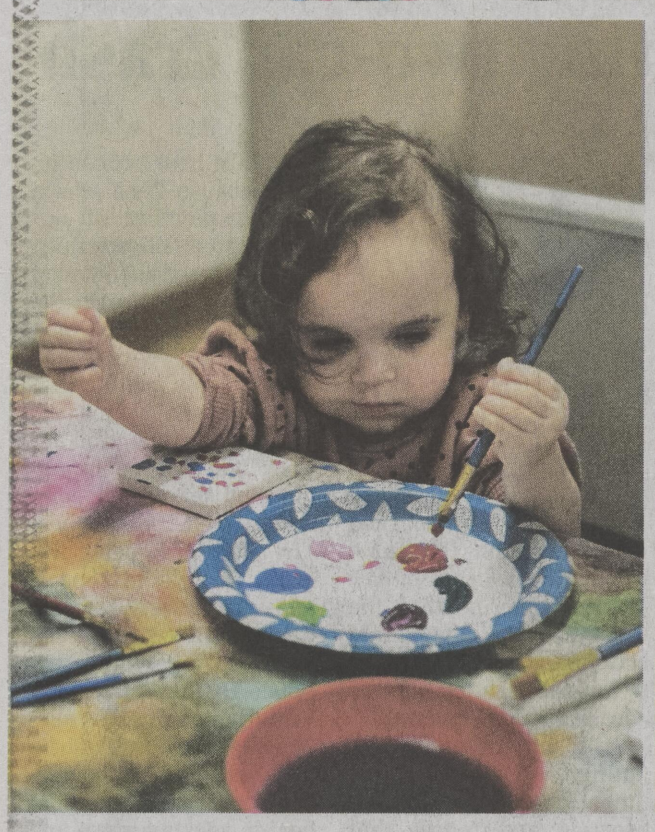
Family Craft Night!

Family Craft Night was a blast last week! The Wilmington Memorial Library wanted to thank everyone who joined them to create miniature masterpieces for the Tiny Art Show. If you haven't submitted your artwork yet, there's still time — the deadline is Tuesday, Sept. 30. (Courtesy photos)



The pumpkins are coming

WILMINGTON — Wilmington United Methodist Church is pleased to announce that their Pumpkin Patch is just around the corner, with opening day on Monday, Sept. 29.

This year features new hours:

Monday-Friday 1 - 7 p.m.

Saturday & Sunday 9:30 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Come check out the front lawn filled with lots to choose from: elf houses, swan gourds, gizmos, snowballs, stars, and a huge variety of shapes and colors (green! blue! white!) when it comes to pumpkins.

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Pumpkin Patch Instagram: *https://www.instagram.com/wumc_pumpkin_patch/* or search for *wumc_pumpkin_patch*

Wilmington landlord off the hook for now

NUISANCE FROM PAGE 1

ly to the neighborhood due to unruly house parties and other disturbances at the Maywood Terrace home. The abutters, besides describing the house and yard as an eyesore, also reported that the area had become infested with rodents due to overflowing trash cans and litter that was strewn all about the yard.

McLaughlin was generally cooperative with the council from the start of the public hearing, as she immediately took steps to clean up the property by removing a partially-filled pool from the backyard, picking up rubbish and debris from the yard and purchasing new garbage cans, and making repairs to siding and a dilapidated rear porch.

She later got rid of at least one unregistered vehicle from the driveway.

However, the council ultimately kept the nuisance proceedings open after neighbors alleged that the house's tenants were continuing to cause disturbances and other quality-of-life issues. Back in late August, after McLaughlin took action months earlier to evict those renters, the tenants vacated the premises.

Since that time, the Wilmington landlord had pulled permits to renovate the home's kitchen and make other interior improvements.

Satisfied that McLaughlin was making some good-faith efforts to be a good neighbor, Mercer-Bruen circulated a handful of recent photographs of the property that showed it in a good condition.

According to Councilor at-large Robert Toro Jr., given that cooperation, he believed it made sense to finally close the public nuisance hearing in the hopes that the landlord will ensure there are no future issues at the investment property.

"Yes, it took some time, but in the [time] we've been actively dealing with this, we've seen progress," he said. "The property appears to be cleaned up. The photos that were circulated today show it's much better than many of the houses I see when I drive around Woburn."

"Based on the pictures I saw tonight, it looks like an average year in the city," agreed Ward 4 Councilor Joseph Demers. "But the landlord is on notice. [I hope] it's pretty clear after all these meetings that we won't go on this carousel ride again."

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Fall HOME improvement
Part One 2025

Published in
OCTOBER 2025

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Demoulas calls recent firings 'alarming'

DEMOULAS FROM PAGE 1

what the Market Basket Board of Directors characterized as "disruptive behavior."

Demoulas addressed this development:

"These firings are alarming in that they continue to break down the fabric of Market Basket. Paul Quigley, Adam Deschene and Esteban Alvarez are three exceptional men who each dedicated their professional lives to Market Basket. They are talented grocery store operators who are tremendous contributors to Market Basket's success and to its culture. They are well respected and admired colleagues.

"Paul Quigley devoted 44 years to Market Basket and as a Regional District Supervisor he played a central role in the development of all stores on the South Shore of Massachusetts and Rhode Island. Adam devoted 19 years to Market Basket and Esteban 30 years, each holding a stellar track record in the Operations Department. These terminations are disheartening and a major loss for the Market Basket team."

The latest moves come after a failed attempt at mediation between the Board of Directors and Demoulas earlier this month. The negotiations, aimed at resolving the power struggle that has rattled the 90 unit family-owned grocery chain, collapsed in early September. The board, on Sept. 10, voted to remove Demoulas as CEO.